

Tuesday February 23 1977

1941

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THE TIMES

Clement Freud: The trials of a gourmet, page 11

Government defeated on guillotine motion by 29 votes

was uproar in the Commons as the Government was defeated by 29 votes on a guillotine motion limiting debate on the devolution Bill to a further 20 days. The

voting was 312 to 283. In wild scenes Conservatives cheered their victory. Mr Foot, Commons Leader, said the Bill would continue on Thursday, not on a time table.

Ir Foot fails to appease Tories

Notes
Parliamentary Correspondent

Government last night voted with the Government of India Act, more than 40 years ago. Much more time was being allocated than with the European Communities Act.

None of that did much to appease Mr Pym, opposition spokesman on devolution, who pointed out that this was no ordinary guillotine, and no ordinary Bill. This was a constitutional change of infinite significance. The sheer force of the arguments from all sides of the House was a powerful expression of alarm at the implications of the Bill.

The Bill was an important constitutional innovation with ramifications that were hard to predict and which might take years to develop. Mr Pym contended that there was no genuine majority for the Bill in the Commons. To give only 20 more days would mean that a majority of English MPs had decided that Scotland and Wales should not have a say in their destiny.

But Mr Kenneth Lomas, Labour MP for Huddersfield, West, said that the Bill was no more than an attempt at appeasement by the Government.

It was argued that the Bill was proposing an extremely generous allocation of any modern test. As tested loudly, Mr Foot said that the proposed Bill had been debated twice and the total, including debate on the devolution proposal, did not reach the statute within some form of

time. Mr Foot, Leader of the Opposition, had said that ministers come to the conclusion that the devolution proposal did not reach the statute within some form of time.

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Mr Pym suggested that an alternative would be to suspend the Bill and to hold the referendums now. Another possibility would be to call an all-party convention to see if a broad area of agreement could be achieved.

Mr Foot poured scorn on Mr Pym's contention proposals. He noted that "The Times" and I rarely see any reason to attach much importance to what they have to say". He remarked that it was natural to be suspicious when a suggestion of that sort was put forward on the event of a crucial

Parliamentary report, page 5

Leyland men told to return

By Christopher Thomas
Labour Reporter

Leyland Cars remains under the threat of a progressive shutdown because of unofficial action by toolmakers despite an instruction to return to work issued yesterday by the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

The union executive unanimously approved the instruction to return to work, which in theory could lead to disciplinary action if it is flouted. But Mr Roy Fraser, chairman of the unofficial tool room committee, said last night that he believed the committee would be "reluctant to advise the members to call off the stoppage". A decision would not be taken until Saturday in Birmingham.

The only effect so far of the strike, which began at the weekend, is to stop production of the Allegro at Longbridge. As machines break down they are not repaired. Because of that, 4,000 workers have been laid off.

Elsewhere, Marine production has stopped at Cowley because of a strike by 150 maintenance mechanics, resulting in 4,500 men being laid off. At the Triumph paint shop in Coventry 350 men are on strike, with 5,000 workers consequently laid off at Coventry, Liverpool and Birmingham; 2,500 are still laid off at Jaguar, Coventry, and about a thousand at Rover, Solihull, because of a dispute at Castle Bromwich, which ended on Friday.

The AUEW executive, at yesterday's meeting, which issued the return to work instruction, also resolved to support the tool room workers and other skilled grades for the establishment of adequate and acceptable working conditions. It proposed to "give whatever support is possible at the appropriate time", which appears to mean that the union will be looking for means of ending differential anomalies when phase two of the pay policy expires in July, whether or not there is a third year of voluntary pay restraint.

Text, page 20; Any other name, page 17; Food strategy, page 14

Salmon inquiry: A salmon fishing racket which is denuding Scottish and English rivers and diverting salmon from the British market to the Continent is being investigated by fishing protection authorities in Scotland and England.

Fire deaths: A plumber using a blowtorch was an "innocent instigator" of events that led to a fire at a Hull old people's home that killed 11 men, a coroner said.

Singapore: A British teacher has been given 24 hours to leave the country.

Managing director's warning, page 17

li economist
I for bribery
Speaker rules

MPs protested after the Speaker ruled yesterday that the case of Mr Philip Agee, the former CIA agent who faces deportation, was sub judice and that therefore no debate on Mr Agee and Mr Mark Roseman could take place. Mr Foot, Leader of the House, promised a future debate. Scots court, page 4

LSE students to end occupation

Students occupying part of the London School of Economics in protest against increases in tuition fees imposed were ordered by a High Court judge to leave by noon today. Page 2

EEC and Ulster: The BEC's Controller, Northern Ireland, produced figures to rebut criticisms of news coverage in the province expressed last month by Mr Mason, the Secretary of State.

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Singapore: A British teacher has been given 24 hours to leave the country.

Managing director's warning, page 17

Sports, pages 8 and 9

Football: Aston Villa qualify for League Cup final. Motor racing: Jimi Hunt unseated after 100 mph crash. Rugby Union: Scotland name unchanged team against France. Racing: Weather takes its toll again.

Business News, pages 17-23

Stock market: Equities had a strong session and the FT Index closed 7 up at 397.7.

Financial Editor: City unites against Bulllock; volume is key at TMI: A damp squib on prices.

Business features: Deregulation continues to propose a body to replace the Price Commission; Michael Frenchman reports on why Argentina provides the only way out for the Falkland Islanders.

Business Diary: The new Minister for Overseas Development and the Crown Colony.

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On the strain on Minimum Tax and Incomes from Mr Kaldor and Prof Pressnell; Planning and D. A. D. from Prof. A. D. and Mr M. P. Collins' articles; Mr Callaghan's; The Times and Paul

Irving; Warren on Round House; comments by William Maim and Paul

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HOME NEWS

TUC to urge £2,000m economy boost in talks with Chancellor

By Paul Routledge

Senior union leaders are to meet the Chancellor of the Exchequer to impress on him their desire for "major reflationary action" in the Budget to alleviate the continuing high level of unemployment. They will ask for a £2,000m boost to the economy, chiefly through reduced personal taxation.

The TUC General Council meets this morning to endorse its 1977 Economic Review, which urges Mr Healey to expand public spending, even though such a move would conflict with promises to the International Monetary Fund.

After publication of the unemployment figures yesterday, the TUC said they confirmed the need for reflation. Big industrial countries must take steps to get back to a much higher level of activity, which alone could offer a prospect of a return to full employment.

In a reference to the growing rank-and-file pressure on

the social contract, the TUC added: "This is essentially the message which is coming to us from the shop floor: preserving jobs and living standards go together. It is vital for us to do both."

The TUC's six representatives on the National Economic Development Council are to meet the Chancellor on Friday to press home the arguments in the review for a cut in income tax of £1,700m in 1977-78, an increase in pensions by £4 a week for married couples and £2.50 for single people, and for more capital to be directed to the National Enterprise Board.

Mr David Bassett, general secretary of the General and Municipal Workers' Union and one of the TUC's NEDC members involved in the negotiations with the Chancellor, while welcoming the "small" drop in unemployment figures, said last night: "Budgetary stimulus must, in substantial part, consist of direct expenditure on job-creation and job-saving measures, including construction and capital projects."

Mr Callaghan rules out 'free collective chaos'

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

Government determination to forge another pay agreement with the unions was vigorously affirmed yet again in the Commons yesterday when the Prime Minister told MPs that a return to free collective bargaining was the biggest impediment to a new phase of the social contract.

From the Tory benches, Mr Peter Tapsell urged the Prime Minister to draw the attention of the TUC to the long-term economic benefits to be won from restraint on wages, public spending and money supply.

But he said those advantages were being nullified by the failure to maintain the international value of sterling.

Mr Callaghan replied that sterling had been stable of late. Earlier he had reminded the House that several economic indicators were beginning to turn in a favourable direction.

Parliamentary report, page 5

Nuclear safety challenge to Mr Benn

By Staff Reporter

Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, has been asked why nuclear power installations should have to report minor mishaps to him.

A letter from the staff associations and unions at the Dounreay experimental reactor establishment in north Scotland also complains that recent remarks by the minister about the waste products of the nuclear industry apparently prejudiced issues before the Health and Safety Commission had been able to examine them.

The letter states: "We are required and always have been to report all occurrences to the Health and Safety Executive immediately. The only change in the position is that you now wish to be informed of any certain occurrences of lesser significance."

If nuclear power was to be singled out, Mr Benn should state the reasons why.

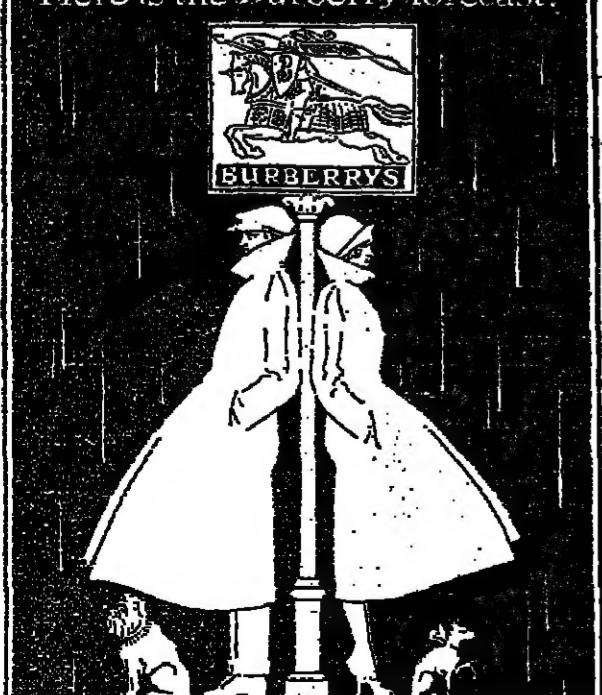
A report by the energy studies unit at Strathclyde University supports the EEC decision to abandon plans for fast nuclear growth.

Bone-marrow boy ill

Anthony Nolan, the boy, aged five, who has suffered from bone-marrow disease since birth, is being kept in isolation in Canterbury Hospital after an injury to his foot.

Anthony, of Challock Lees, near Ashford, is subject to sudden heavy haemorrhages and has no resistance to infection.

Here is the Burberry forecast:



"My own hope is, a sun will pierce the thickest cloud earth ever stretched..."

Browning

It's nice to know you have a Burberry.

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John Kershaw

erring, which is a Scottish and English id diverting salmon from the British market to be sold in caskets, is being investigated by a protection authority in Scotland and England. A conference of members of water sports meeting at Fish-Hall in London this weekend is understood to have the issue on its agenda.

Rules in the law prevent fishing taken against drift-netting salmon in the English and Scottish rivers. Their catch to fish outside the fishing season action can only against anglers fishing landing

the wholesale price of salmon has already risen to £4.00 a lb. It can be much more on the and in extreme cases, for instance, salmon retailing at £14.14 a lb. It will be more this year.

In the 1976 season, it is 60 drift-netting boats 300 tons of salmon 700,000, off Scotland this year it is predicted the take will be even. It is feared that now in force on fishing will turn the salmon fleet to the expensive salmon overseas to make quick

over authorities have up to one mile off salmon owners or take action against fisherman up to 10 miles. Some river like the Tweed Committee have jurisdiction up to 10 miles but the short-fishery protection, lack of vessels makes it a free-for-all 10 miles.

As by the Scots has shown that fish are going to sea and with no catch while crews apparently Scottish fishery off last night: "These are regularly provided with fuel, with no chance to provide the oil. We believe they are to Continental sea."

ing of salmon is happening on the rod-and-tackle and therefore on industry, particularly in Yorkshire.

Government is accused of
n poverty failure

Services
ent
various government
in urban deprivation
to make any significant
into poverty were never intended
Community Project says in its report, published

ments, ranging from itself to educational areas and inner areas are not about eradicating at all "but about poor people".

It is the first analysis of all the government attacks on deprived areas over decade and appears as initiative by Mr Secretary of State for Environment, is getting It has been compiled by the information agency unit of the Community Develop

Convulsions not caused by vaccine

By Our Medical Correspondent
While medical experts in Britain continue to argue about the frequency of serious adverse reactions to whooping cough vaccine, a survey in Denmark has produced some reassurance for those in favour of its use.

Some years ago the Danish immunization programme was changed so that the first dose of the vaccine was to be given at five weeks of age, whereas before 1970 it had been given at five months. If administration of the vaccine is indeed a chief cause of convulsions and infant spasms, that change in the programme should have led to a change in the age at which children develop those symptoms.

The statistics show no evidence of such a change. Denmark is a small compact

country, and virtually every child with a first convulsion is admitted to one of the 20 hospitals with a paediatric department. Details of all such admissions since 1970 of infants aged 18 months or less were analysed at Copenhagen University Hospital. There was no change in the age distribution before and after the change in the immunization programme: 40 per cent of the children had their first convulsion before the age of six months and 90 per cent by the age of one year.

Further examination of the 13 children admitted since 1970 showed that vaccination might have been a trigger in three cases, and that in 13 others some vaccination had been given a little time before the convulsion, though there seemed to be no connection. Six of those 13 children had been

given injections including whooping cough vaccine; the seven others had had other vaccines.

The Danish survey concludes that the peak age for attacks of convulsions in infancy is between three and eight months and that whatever vaccines may be given that age range will be associated by chance with such attacks in a few cases: a simple coincidence of timing.

It suggests that any causal connection between whooping cough immunization and infantile convulsions seems very unlikely and it adds that experience in a recent whooping cough epidemic in Denmark has confirmed the value of mass vaccination in protecting children aged less than 12 months.

Source: *Archives of Disease in Childhood*, February, 1977, page 134.

£25 a day
for official
transport

From Our Correspondent

The result of an inquiry at Reading on Monday into the alleged unauthorized expenditure of almost £1m on cheap mortgages and office cars by the Thames Water Authority is expected in six to eight weeks. Mr Alec Cappeler, the district auditor, said yesterday.

The inquiry heard objections by Mr Reginald Bolland, a retired Thames Conservancy administrative officer, to the authority's audit of accounts for 1975-76. He said £950,000 was paid out under a staff

Farmers told to share price burden with consumers

By Hugh Clayton

The Government told farmers yesterday that they could not escape the financial sacrifices that faced the rest of the British people. Mr Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said: "Nobody can opt out. Price increases that might have been in normal circumstances may need to be held up, today in the national interest."

It was his most uncompromising reply yet to contentions from farming unions that proposed increases in EEC support prices that would add at least 50p a week to British family

food shopping bills are inadequate.

"Patriotism has its disciplines as well as its rewards", Mr Silkin told members of the National Farmers' Union at Market Harborough, Leicestershire. "Britain's agriculture must expect to share sacrifices with the rest of the country."

Mr Silkin said inevitable price rises fixed by the EEC would push up butter by 12p a pound in Britain this year and cheese would increase by 5p.

His speech will annoy farmers who believe that price rises are needed for investment, but it will delight food processors, leading trade unions and consumer groups

and the rest of the nation.

It cost the Thames Water

Authority a total of £28,033 per annum to get five top officials to work each day, over £25 a working day for each director.

He said: "On this evidence I should advise any up-and-coming young man that if he cannot get into oil then get into water."

Mr John McGurtie, the authority's assistant director of finance, said the mortgage scheme cost the authority £45,830 a year and was agreed orally between the chairman, Mr Peter Black, and chairman of the finance and personnel subcommittee.

Directors using authority cars privately paid for their own petrol, but they had to do a lot of work in the back of their cars. It would be classed as private use if they were not working in the back of the car on the way to and from work.

Two jailed for
killing man of 88

Michael Geoffrey Bracewell, aged 30, of Five Reel Close, Horsecroft, Leeds, was jailed at Leeds Crown Court yesterday for life for the murder of Mr Israel Blackstone, aged 88, of Gipton Ward Crescent, Leeds, in 1974.

Eric Lockwood, aged 35, of King Edward Avenue, Horsecroft, was found not guilty of murder but guilty of manslaughter and was jailed for six years.

Mr Rodney Lester, solicitor for Mr Bracewell, said there would be an appeal against the conviction.

Car safety seat
risks attacked

More than half of 100 car safety restraints for children examined by Automobile Association engineers were potentially dangerous, according to a report in the AA magazine *Drive*.

In almost every case they had not been mounted in accordance with manufacturers' instructions and were insecurely anchored. The magazine criticizes car makers for not producing custom-built child-safety seats.

Swimsuit became
transparent

Susan Saiter, aged 22, who bought a swimsuit for £6.50, found that when she left a swimming pool in Ibiza it was transparent.

Berlei UK was fined £20 by magistrates at Hitchin, Hertfordshire, yesterday after pleading guilty to an offence under the Trade Descriptions Act by selling a costume outfit for swimming in.

Offers to
help Lady
Churchill
declined

From John Charter

Manchester

The North Western Regional Health Authority, which claims to serve one of the largest and most deprived regions in England, is to tell the Royal Commission on the National Health Service that, while many measures are unsatisfactory, the time is not right for another reorganization.

The authority's submission to the royal commission which was published yesterday said: "We cannot emphasize too strongly our firm belief that at a time when both the health and local government services are still struggling to recover from the trauma of major reorganization, any suggestion of further large-scale reorganization or reallocation of functions in the foreseeable future would be quite unacceptable."

The authority administers 146 hospitals, nearly three hundred health centres and clinics and practitioner services between Stockport and Manchester. It would like the royal commission to examine in detail the present structure which allows for more sensible multi-district and single-district areas.

That structure, it says, is "unrealistic" based as it is on a purely political decision that area health authorities should be amalgamated with those of local authorities responsible for social services.

The adoption of that principle, the evidence says, has led to different patterns of health services in the shire and metropolitan counties.

The evidence document goes on to say that many people and

North-west is against
NHS reorganization

organizations consider that the 1974 regrouping of both local authorities and health services resulted in a pattern that was far from ideal.

"We are convinced that too little time was given to the preparation of the new court lists which were inconvenient everyone.

"Since the Courts Act the matter has been taken out of the judges' hands", he said, "and court administrators seem to feel it is their duty to fill every minute of the judge's day, no matter what the inconvenience to counsel, solicitors, litigants and other.

"The best thing people can do is to contact their members of Parliament. I have already made strong representations."

There were 38 cases listed yesterday, 22 of them before Judge Llewellyn, who was able to clear them quickly.

Public asked
to protest
over court
lists

By a Staff Reporter

Judge Llewellyn advised the public at Bloomsbury and Marylebone County Court yesterday to complain to Parliament about the new county court administration. He said judges could do nothing about the overfilled court lists which were inconveniencing everyone.

"We consider it to have been a major political error that this step was not taken before the National Health Service was committed to its present pattern.

"Nevertheless, we are equally convinced that although the present structure is far from ideal, it can, given time and goodwill, be made to work in a reasonable and acceptable manner, subject to some changes within the present broad structure."

The north-western authority totally opposes one solution which has been put forward recently, the transfer of health functions back to elected local government.

A recent government Green Paper rejected this solution and the authority's evidence says:

"We do not believe the National Health Service could withstand the trauma of a further major reorganization of the kind which would be involved in the transfer of functions to local government."

"All the energies of those in the National Health Service need to be devoted to meeting its immediate problems. To divert effort into solving the problems contingent upon another major reorganization would, in our view, be quite wrong."

Mark Wright, aged 22, a London Transport booking clerk, ran a season ticket fraud

after losing money gambling, it was stated at Marylebone Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday.

Mr Wright, of Kenwyn Drive, Cricklewood, was given a six-week suspended prison sentence, fined £10 with £40 costs and ordered to pay £10.60 compensation for theft and falsifying accounts.

Clerk ran season ticket fraud

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Mr Wright, of Kenwyn Drive, Cricklewood, was given a six-week suspended prison sentence, fined £10 with £40 costs and ordered to pay £10.60 compensation for theft and falsifying accounts.

At 10pm on February 6, 1977, these seven Jesuit priests and nuns were murdered...



Father Martin Thomas, 43



Brother John Conroy, 57



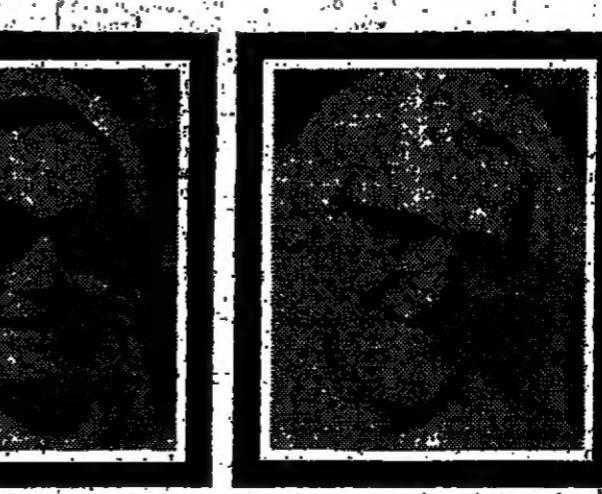
Father Christopher Sheppard-Smith, 34



Sister Eulogy Berita Schneider, 73



Sister Cathleen Anne Stigler, 29



Sister Mary Ann Chinn, 42



Sister Josephine Whalen, 55

...who was responsible?

The British Foreign Office says it will never be proved. But the Jesuits point out that two witnesses are alive. Father Dunstan Myerscough, "a down-to-earth Lancashire lad whose testimony they will never change" (he laid down and miraculously escaped the 111 shots fired) and the nun who was too ill to walk. Both say the killers were African guerrillas.

Superintendent John Potter, policeman in charge of the area said they were members of the Zimbabwe African National Union but he doubted if the gang had been under instruction to kill the missionaries. "They seem to do their own thing," he said. "If the gang wanted to kill Europeans they would kill Europeans."

But someone pays and feeds and arms these men who are almost daily murdering the innocent in the name of "Freedom".

FACT: In September 1970, the 15 members of the World Council of

Churches met in Geneva and decided, without dissent, to use their Special Fund to Combat Racism to support guerrilla organisations in the following unequivocal terms:

"The proceeds of the Fund shall be used to support organisations that combat racism, rather than welfare organisations that alleviate the effects of racism... While these grants are made without condition, in the manner in which they are spent, they are at the same time a commitment of the Programme to Combat Racism."

WARNINGS and protests in the strongest terms were made immediately by bishops and archbishops, and other leading churchmen throughout the world, that this decision would inevitably lead to bloodshed in Southern Africa.

Nevertheless, in four years, no less than £36,000 was handed over to 11 African movements. Thus was the World Council of Churches, in the words of its secretary-general "programmed to fight racism".

Later there were attempts to control how

the money was used, set for non-military purposes, but a Jesuit spokesman recently called these "Nativists".

FACT: On February 6 this year, seven white Roman Catholic missionaries, four of them women, were lined up and shot dead at St Paul's Mission at Musanze, 30 miles north of Salisbury, Rhodesia. The London "Times" reported:

"The massacres took place at about 10 pm, when a gang of 12 guerrillas entered the mission. The African staff were ignored; only the Whites were rounded up."

JUDGMENT on responsibility for what the Pope called a deplorable act of violence "may have been with Burye's individual THINKING members of a churchman take steps to ensure that no money which he or she receives can become part of the World Council of Churches' Programme to Combat Racism".

ACTION: WRITE NOW to your own church and to the World Council of Churches at 150 Route de Ferney, 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland.

HOME NEWS

London needs 300 more detectives 'or some crimes will not be investigated'

By Clive Borrell
Crime Correspondent

London's 3,500 detectives are so overworked that unless the Home Office agrees to increase their strength by at least 300 men some crimes will not be investigated, it was stated yesterday.

"Our workload is now at saturation point", Mr John (Jock) Wilson, Assistant Commissioner (Crime), said yesterday. "We cannot keep soaking the men we have or we shall reach the point where work is just not going to be done."

At a Scotland Yard press conference called to announce the latest and highest crime figures Mr Wilson said men of CID rank were urgently needed to cope with the 4 per cent increase in crime during the past year.

The number of indictable crimes recorded in the Metropolitan Police area last year totalled 472,474, against 452,578

for 1975. Despite that 4 per cent increase the Yard takes some comfort from previous figures in which 1975 showed a 9 per cent increase on the previous year. In 1974, the increase was 16 per cent.

The number of men in the CID is now the same as it was in 1969 and "there has been one hell of a lot of crime since then", Mr Wilson said. "We have got to a stage where there is only so much you can handle with so many men."

Specialist crime squads based at Scotland Yard were now being used more extensively to back up divisional CID officers to give the local men more time to investigate crime committed in their areas.

During last year the number of crimes solved fell by 4 per cent. In fact, only 23 out of every 100 crimes committed in London were "cleared up" last year. That is the worst detection rate since 1970.

Some of the difficulties facing the Yard can be seen from the figure for last year. Assaults totalled 12,612, against 11,319 in 1975; robbery 10,130 (7,959); burglary 106,945 (98,141); vehicle crimes 150,655 (146,552); fraud and forgery 30,916 (30,825); other thefts (including shoplifting, &c) 136,616 (136,062); miscellaneous crime (including blackmail, criminal damage and non-violent sexual offences &c) 24,599 against 21,720.

The Yard's biggest anxiety, Mr Wilson said, was the increase in robbery and other violent theft. Firearms were used or produced on 767 occasions.

Guns were used in the furtherance of 613 other crimes. Assaults on the police showed that an average of three officers were attacked every day and a further 22 per cent by those aged between 17 and 20.

The Yard noticed an increase of husband-and-wife teams involved in burglary and shoplifting offences. It said: "Often the woman is the dominant member of the team".

Bail to be sought in secrets case

By Stewart Tindall
Home Affairs Reporter

A High Court Judge is to be asked this morning to allow bail for the two journalists and a former soldier charged under the Official Secrets Act and remanded in custody on Monday.

Mr Justice Bristow will hear the applications in chambers. The two journalists are Crispin Autrey, aged 31, who works for the magazine *Time Out*, and Duncan Campbell, aged 24, a freelance journalist, who has written for the magazine. The other man is John Berry, aged 32, who served in the Royal Corps of Signals until 1970 and is now a van driver.

The three men are all

charged under section 2 of the Official Secrets Act, 1911. It is alleged that Mr Berry passed classified information to the two journalists at an address in north London last Friday.

On Monday Tottenham magistrates were told that further arrests might take place, but it is understood that there is no immediate likelihood of that.

The arrests have brought an outcry that the Government has failed to keep to the terms of a statement on changes to the Official Secrets Act given by Mr Rees, Home Secretary, in the Commons last November. He said then that mere receipt of information—the charge on which the two journalists are held—should no longer be an offence and he hoped the

Attorney General would bear in mind such planned changes to the Act when considering prosecutions.

Yesterday it was pointed out that Mr Samuel Silkin, QC, the Attorney General, had told the Commons last December that he would not restrict his assent to prosecutions required by the Act to areas that would remain offences under any new legislation.

"I shall continue to consider each case on its merit in deciding whether it would be in the public interest to consent to a prosecution," he said.

But he added: "It will be open to me in appropriate cases to regard the Home Secretary's statement and the general welcome given to it as indicative of the public interest."

Fewer killed in work accidents

Mr Agee asks Scots court to prevent his deportation

From Ronald Faux
Edinburgh

Fewer people were killed and fewer injured at work in 1975, the first full year in which the Health and Safety at Work Act was fully in operation, than in any previous year, Mr James Hamer, Chief Inspector of Factories, said in the Factory Inspectorate's annual report, published yesterday.

There were 427 deaths in industry in 1975, compared with 479 in 1974. The number of accidents was down from 32,556 in 1974 to 34,161.

On the railways the risk of death is said to be as high as that in the construction industry and four times that of industry as a whole. Mr Agee's address was given as 1 Royal Circus, Edinburgh. The petition is likely to come before the court today. Mr

Agee will be represented by Mr Lionel Daiches, QC.

The deportation order served by two Special Branch officers in Edinburgh last Friday gives Mr Agee until Tuesday to "choose a destination abroad".

Mr Agee's lawyers' argument

concerns the legality of a British minister's actions in

Scotland.

Mr Daiches prepared a similar argument last year against the deportation of Mr James MacDonald Reid. The Home Office abandoned its case before it came to court. The contention is that Acts of 1887 and 1926 meant that only the Secretary of State for Scotland can exercise power in Scotland and that decisions taken by Mr Rees, Home Secretary, and other ministers affecting Scotland are invalid.

Mr Agee is also seeking to prevent the Chief Constable of the Lothian and Borders police from arresting him or doing anything at the Home Secretary's request that would result in his forcible removal from the jurisdiction of the Scottish Office.

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Britain would not feel slighted if President Amin stayed away from Commonwealth conference

of Commons
rial Army of Uganda decides
to Britain for the
Commonwealth Prime Minister's
ence later this year such a
ould present difficulties
though Britain was
not issue invitati
s Callaghan, Prime Minister
in answer to questions
suggested that such a visit
be repugnant.

Mr Canavan (West Stirlingshire) is to consult the Foreign Secretary, Dr David Owen, on his intentions to the Commonwealth Conference later this year. The view of the widespread
atrocities in Uganda
the recent reports of the
mbers of the two cabinets
and the Archbishop of
Cardiff, he says, it would
ent that the major
dewitt citizens to invite
ruthless barbarian to this
who has no respect for
rights or even life itself.
Callaghan (Cardiff, South-East) is
share his revulsion at the
that have come from

Uganda and if they are true there
can be no words strong enough to
condemn what has happened.
As regards the Commonwealth
Conference there are problems
because Britain is not the host
and does not issue invitations.
Attendance at a Commonwealth
Conference is a matter for all the
Commonwealth.

I would be willing to take a stand
on this matter but I think in
view of the delicacy of the situation
I would not do so at the moment
we go further.

The Foreign Secretary has in
structed our delegation to the
United Nations Human Rights
Commission to call for an investigation
and to ask Uganda to agree
to an investigation as to what has
transpired in that country.

Mr Margaret Thatcher, Leader of
the Opposition, has said that
she would support the Foreign Secretary's
view that the Foreign Secretary will
be invited to the major
dewitt citizens to invite
ruthless barbarian to this
who has no respect for
rights or even life itself.

Callaghan (Cardiff, South-East) is
share his revulsion at the
that have come from

PS system likened to flogging

anges on the rules of Parliament by
e Prime Minister, Mr James Callaghan,
said that
etary Private Secretaries
posed by ministers to
with the Parliament
political activities. They
ected in act generally in
ce with their special posi
ation with the Government.
Aitken (Thanet, East
is recalls that on this occasion when he
a wayward Parliament
Private Secretary, Mr Michael
Stirling (Tunbridge Wells, Kent)
published him as behaving
tupid dictator?
void a repetition of such
language, would be
his attitude towards those
MPs who in tonight's
division on an issue of

constitutional principle may be in
inclined to vote according to the
dictates of their patriotic con
sciences?

Mr Callaghan—I would sooner
have the insults of Mr Michael
Aitken than Mr Aitken's compliments.
(Laughter.) As regards PPSs,
have nothing to add to what I have

Mr Neil Kinnock (Bedwleyton,
Chingford, C)—It would be a good idea if
Mr Kinnock before he gives a judgment
on that subject. (Laughter.) Would
he acknowledge that it is
better for Parliamentary Private
Secretaries to exercise influence on
the Government than for people like
Mr Aitken and his predecessors
and the kind of influence they had?

Will he seriously reconsider the
position of Parliamentary Private
Secretaries?

too many ces full ittle men

Mr More (Ludlow, C) was
e to bring in a Bill to
the reduction to food and
He said it was intended to
the number of statutory
enacted under the Food
Act.

id they live in an age of
instruments. Statutory
nts were issued under the
y of Acts at the rate of
00 a year. Many of these
do with the labelling of
ve offices full of little men
at these regulations (the
r which we are paying. We
ve full of little men who
pecting and bring pro
s, for which we are paying.
have enough time to
court to enforce them,
h we are paying.

he Bill was seeking to
the issue of such statutory
nts. If not he would want
issue another statutory
e. He could not give the
e, but the English translation
label would be "Cawdwell".
(Laughter.)

Bill was read a first time.

Further talks on Nato airborne early
warning: Nimrod project continues

No decision has been reached on
the Nimrod Airborne Early Warning
project. Mr Frederick Mulley,
Secretary of State for Defence,
said that the project had been
under consideration for some time.

Mr Mulley (Sheffield, Park, Lab)
Mr Geoffrey Patten (Chesterfield
and Walton, C)—No conclusions
have yet been reached about the
Nato AEW programme and, therefore,
no decision has been made
about the future of the Nimrod
AEW project. Development of
which is continuing in the meantime.

Following the December meeting
of the Nato Defence Planning
Committee there have been recent
meetings of financial experts and I
expect to have further discussions
with them.

Mr Patten—The Government's decision
in principle to buy the Boeing
Airborne Warning and Control system
is hard to justify except on the
ephemeral basis of a Nato-wide
purchase especially when it's more
expensive and not suitable for
our needs. We should not be
able to buy it now. (Laughter.)

Mr Mulley—Unhappily, there is no
prospect of Nato as a whole taking
the Nimrod alternative for the
alliance. There will be a collective
Nato scheme. We have made clear
that Britain could have twice as many
AEW aircraft if we bought British.
These aircraft could be in service
as soon as possible. (Laughter.)

Mr Mulley—It is odd that he, one
week should charge me with not
considering our Nato allies and now,
by inference, criticise the fact that
the allies spent too much time on
the AEW project. For me to
take this as a criticism of the
Government would be a repetition
of the doctrine he has preached

recently.

Mr Philip Goodhart (Bromley,
Bexleyheath, C)—Does he ever feel
a twinge of conscience at lecturing

the Nato-based early warning

units in Germany

et requirements

RAF ammunition and spares stocks
in Germany are sufficient to meet
Nato's requirements.

But if the Supreme Allied
Commander were to change these
requirements, then in the light of
any development we would
have to review and evaluate any
necessary changes to meet any new
requirements that are placed on

Mr Winston Churchill, an Opposition
spokesman on defence (Street
foot, C)—RAF Germany has a
seriously inadequate number of
air-to-air missiles. What proposals
do the Government have to remedy
the situation?

Mr Mulley—We are constantly
reviewing the force levels
in RAF Germany to meet the
requirements. At the moment, they meet
the requirements. Since the change
of administration in 1974 there has
been a significant increase in both
the quality and the quantity of our
contribution to Nato and the RAF
in Germany.

Mr Mulley—Will he confirm or
denies recently made
RAF in Germany ticks
our arms, ammunition and
parts and that in the event of
there would be a delay in
ing ammunition?

Unhappily—I am happy to
o refute those suggestions.

overnment oppose Bill curtailing
imal experiments for cosmetics

of Lords
ials to be used in
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for which there was no alternative
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Under Secretary of Defence

Mr Bruce George
(South, Lab) who had
he state of combat readiness
RAF in Germany, Mr Well
added: The alliance repre
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Under

WEST EUROPE

EEC plea to Britain on farm prices

From Michael Hornsby Brussels, Feb 22

Britain was exhorted in Brussels today not to sacrifice an opportunity to take the first real steps towards reform of the EEC's common agricultural policy for the sake of a compromise or only short-term advantage.

The plea came from Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the EEC Commissioner responsible for budgetary affairs, who was involved in the drafting of the 1977-78 common farm price proposals unveiled earlier this month by his agricultural colleague, Mr Finn Olav Gundelach.

Mr Tugendhat accepts that Britain's immediate aim is bound to be an agreement that will have the least impact on domestic food prices, especially as there will be an automatic 2 per cent increase anyway this year because of alignment with EEC price levels.

What is worrying him is that while a number of possible compromises could secure this short-term British objective, they could affect the prospects for a longer-term reordering of agricultural priorities in the Community generally.

In particular, Mr Tugendhat is concerned that Mr John Silkin, the British Minister of Agriculture, could find it politically expedient to agree to an average price increase higher than the 3 per cent proposed by the Commission in return for the "green pound" than the recommended 6 per cent.

Mr Tugendhat believes that this could deal a fatal blow to the strategy pursued by him and Mr Gundelach against the EEC's chronic structural surpluses.

He believes that the climate for farm policy reform is more propitious than it is likely to be again for some time, because of the general concern about inflation. This has already led to some novel policies being struck.

TV blackout in France

Paris, Feb 22.—A strike by French television and radio staffs caused the cancellation of many programmes today. It was part of a week's series of strikes in support of a general pay and conditions agreement which will culminate in a general stoppage of technical, artistic, administrative and journalistic staff tomorrow. Reuter.

Choice of site for nuclear waste dump in Lower Saxony certain to anger environment lobby

From Dan van der Vat Bonn, Feb 22

The Lower Saxony Land Government today announced its choice of a site for the highly controversial West German national dump for radioactive waste from nuclear power stations.

It is situated underground at Gorleben. Subject to confirmation (which cannot be taken for granted) from the Hanover Parliament, it is likely to create more problems than it solves.

The Lower Saxons have been under increasing pressure from the federal Government in Bonn to name a site. Without a waste dump, the country's nuclear power programme could have been crippled. It has already been curtailed because of a nationwide wave of protest, the latest evidence of which was provided by mass demonstrations last weekend.

Gorleben is a small town close to the Elbe and the East German border. This fact alone may prompt objections to the choice on strategic grounds. It would be one of the first places to be overrun in the event of a military advance from the east.

It is also on the edge of a

nature reserve, which is bound to arouse the hostility of the growing environmental lobby as well as the opponents of nuclear power. Gorleben was one of five possible sites under consideration.

The ideal site from a scientific point of view is a deep-lying deposit of natural salt. In West Germany, such deposits are found only in the eastern part of Lower Saxony.

The plan for the dump requires the construction of a reprocessing plant. Some of the waste from burnt-out power station elements can be recycled. When the waste has been reduced to the unavoidable minimum, it is to be placed in sealed, radiation-proof containers and buried in the salt. Gorleben has huge deposits of salt 30 million years old.

The favoured site offers at a depth of 3,300ft below ground a salt deposit about two miles long and well over a mile wide. Scientists believe that waste will have to be kept there for a millennium until the level of radioactivity declines to a safe level. This poses security problems in a relatively small, almost landlocked country which would be in the front line of European hostilities.

If construction goes ahead on schedule, the entire complex would be ready by 1988, with parts of it in operation some years earlier.

Finally, the mediator suggests that all French press organs

published abroad should be repatriated by agreement between employers and unions.

Italy's plans for industry earn praise

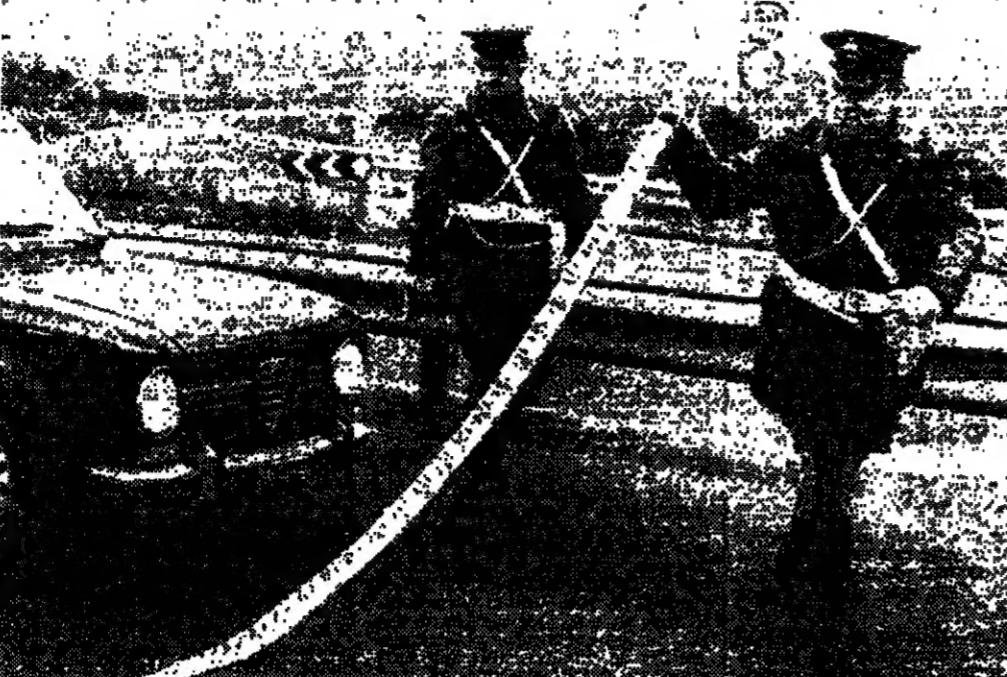
From Our Own Correspondent Rome, Feb 22

Mr Jenkins, President of the EEC Commission, spoke here today of the "courageous efforts" being made in Italy to improve the economy.

The measures taken so far did not solve all the problems, he said. The inflation rate was still high but, checking his impressions with those of his visit here six months ago, he felt the policies adopted had been at least as substantial and as firm as the difficulties allowed.

Mr Jenkins made his comments at a press conference after talks with Signor Andreotti, the Prime Minister, and Signor Gaetano Stammari, the Treasury Minister.

Commenting on the likely enlargement of the Community, he said he expected that the Portuguese Government would make a formal application next month to join the EEC.



A strip of long nails is placed across a road by Rome police under new regulations allowing stricter measures at road blocks.

End in sight to strikes in Holland

From Sue Masterman The Hague, Feb 22

Dutch employers and trade union federations made important progress today towards ending strikes which still hold up work in the ports, several hundred building projects and a variety of industries.

Representatives of the port employers from Rotterdam and Amsterdam, where the unions claim that between 80 and 90 per cent of the essential services are idle, will meet the unions in Rotterdam tomorrow for talks. The employers have not demanded a return to work as a condition for talks, and the unions have made no move to send their 6,725 striking members back to work.

In the building sector, the unions have agreed that all strikes, affecting some 6,500 workers on 150 projects, will end tomorrow morning. A basis has been found for a new wage agreement, they say. A union spokesman said he expected a small pay rise over and above the automatic compensation for the rise in the cost of living.

The strikes, which have now lasted 12 working days, have won for the unions, at least for the present year, the automatic price compensation they demanded as well as a rise in real income.

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Charity Credits. All account holders can be issued with a book of Charity Credits. Used just like a cheque, they enable you to give when you want, to whom you want. They are by far the most convenient way of distributing money to charity. To find out more, please post the coupon below indicating the booklets you require.

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48 Pembury Road Tonbridge Kent TN9 2JD

Please send me the following booklets:

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TRUST FACILITIES — to help those who wish to give capital to charity.

GIVING TO CHARITY FROM INCOME — a guide for individual donors.

THE BUSINESS SIDE OF GIVING TO CHARITY — a guide for Company Directors.

CHARITY CREDITS — an explanatory booklet.

NAME _____

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Queen

oger Berthoud

Feb 22
een received an almost
singly warm welcome
arrived in Auckland
er fortnight's tour
Zealand. Huge crowds
gress difficult when
the Duke of Edinburgh
"walkabout" among
in a city enough
treet this morning.

was some slight tension
verenthusiastic photo-
blocked the view of
and children who had
ing for hours in the
ne or two journalists
cked and jabbed with

all, however, it was a
start to this jubilee
to New Zealand and
the Queen's fifth to
land and sixth to Aus-
Not many New Zea-
dans doubt the doubts of
strilians about the
constitutional position.
useful role is considered
to do well.

New Zealand Herald
in a loyal leading
his morning: "People
erwhelmingly acknowl-
e role of the monarch
in a world where so
ads of state must go
ind armour and under
guard, what a thing
the Queen can walk
ong her New Zealand
ith an absolute mini-
fuss and protection."

Queen, evidently re-
by a four-day cruise
stepped ashore this



The Queen meets young New Zealanders assembled at a racecourse on the outskirts of Auckland.

morning after the royal yacht Britannia had anchored in choppy waters off the naval base across the bay from the town centre. It immediately began to rain.

There to greet her were Sir Denis Blundell, the Governor-General, a wholly uncontroversial former New Zealand High Commissioner in London, and Mr Robert Muldoon, the powerfully built and temperamentally pugnacious Prime Minister.

A 54-minute military review turned out to be unexpectedly stirring. Bands of the three services, with women, even a

female concert player, and

Albert, who made three visits within a few months in 1870 and 1871. He showed a deep and lasting interest in the Maori people, Mr Muldoon said.

The Queen's subsequent

"walkabout" has become a

familiar feature of royal tours

since it was pioneered in Wellington in 1970. According to

the Queen's thrilled interviewers, mainly old ladies, questions were on the lines of: "Do

you live in Auckland?" and

"Have you been doing your shopping?"

After a civic luncheon, the

Queen and Prince Philip met

some of the 3,500 excited, sun-
tanned children at the lovely

Ellerslie racecourse. In Auckland's suburbs, back on board

Britannia, there gave a press

reception dinner party, and

finally a larger reception. Mr

P. Page, the royal chef, Mr P.

Spencer, the pastry sous chef,

two senior cooks, another cook,

three dining room assistants and

a kitchen porter had been

brought from London to help.

So far this year there have

been at least four rapes on the

subway, four robberies in which

large numbers of passengers were

forced to hand over their

wallets on pain of being beaten

or stabbed, and many instances

of assault, and purse-snatching.

All this serves as a reminder

that although crime in a big

city such as New York is not

longer given quite the publicity

it did some years ago, the crime

rate has continued to rise.

In the subway, some stretches have

become well known as danger-

ous because there is a long

gap between stations, and time

for a gang, often of youths, to

work their way through a

carriage, robbing the passengers.

In fact, a few days ago he

was ordered to switch his man

back to the train by Mr

Harold Fisher, head of the

Transit Authority. At the same

time, Mr Fisher and Mr

Abraham Beame, the mayor,

issued an appeal to policemen

and firemen to travel to work

on the subway, wearing their

uniform as a deterrent to

thieves.

This too, seems a hardly

satisfactory solution since many

of them prefer to go by car.

The Daily News asked a

senior police officer what he

would do if his mother telephoned him at eight o'clock one

evening and said she was com-

ing to see him by subway. His

reply, after a pause: "I would

tell her to stay right there and I would be over to pick her up."

Nobody denies the dangers

of subway travel but possibly

they should be given too

much emphasis. The New York

Post recently quoted Transit

Authority officials as saying

that the probability of being

murdered or raped in the sub-

way was considerably less than

in the streets above.

w denial embassy iation

Feb 22.—The Soviet
day issued a fresh
American allegations
mysterious radiation
named at the United
abuse here, and said
ion level was "nothing

admiral Goucharov, a
mentator, was replaying
ian allegations that
brary last year the
building has been
to a barrage of micro-
lisation.

in an article in the
magazine *Science*
Goucharov said that
shown radiation levels
areas of the United
as well in excess of
and the Moscow am-

armed reports here
ed the radiation with
surveillance equip-
uter.

ma begins search for er road to socialism

Correspondent
Feb 22

third congress of
ruling Socialist Party
(BSP), which
have eight months
schedule, will have as
its main topics the
third four-year econo-
. It will also discuss
lements, to the party
ion.

only holding of the con-
the result of Burma's
political, economic
plete.

More riots in Sierra Leone likely

More violence is expected in
Sierra Leone, according to
recent visitors and information from
Freetown. Public opinion is
quite against President Siaka Stevens's decision to call a
general election as an answer to
riots and petitions.

It is estimated that 36 people
were killed in the riots in
Freetown and at least 100
wounded by gunfire from the Internal Security Unit. They
included students and school-
children, demanding Dr
Stevens's resignation.

The security forces are
accused of pursuing the injured
to hospitals and interrupting
the supply of blood plasma.

The election is to be held in
May. The present Parliament
consists of members of the
All People's Congress and only it is doubtful whether
any opposition candidates will
be allowed to stand.

It is Mrs Gandhi versus the rest

Delhi, Feb 22.—India's opposition parties have mounted a unified challenge to Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, for next month's general election.

Final nomination lists showed today that in nearly all constituencies, Mrs Gandhi's supporters and allies will face head-on fights against single candidates backed by all the main opposition groups.

Most of the 320 million voters who go to the polls from March 16 to 20 will be presented with a simple choice: for or against Mrs Gandhi.

Because of the number of parties and candidates fighting previous elections, the ruling

Thai ex-leader 'does not want power'

Bangkok, Feb 22.—Field-Marshal Thanom Kittikachorn, the former Thai Military ruler, said today that he had no ambitions to regain power in the country. "I will do everything in my capacity as an ordinary citizen to help maintain our main institutions—the nation, religion and monarchy," he told a press conference.

Field-Marshal Thanom, who left a Buddhist temple here yesterday, after a stay of five months, said he was willing to give his support and advice to anyone who was interested in the three principal institutions."

He fled to Singapore in October, 1973. He returned last September to enter the priesthood of student demonstrations which culminated in a military coup on October 6.—Reuters.

Unsel clash at Tokyo bribes trial

Feb 22.—The president of the Lockheed bribery trial rejected the
by Kakuei Tanaka, former Prime Minister, and
defendants that large
the prosecution's case
fully inadmissible.

Toshio Enomoto, his
and three officials
Marubeni Corporation
which the bribes were
to have been
led. Hiroki Hayano,
Okubo and Hiroshi
ed for a revision of
the prosecution's

is previous hearing, on
all five defendants
charges of bribery and
of the foreign
completely."

The prosecution had alleged
that Mr Tanaka replied *yes* to
Kossai (OK, OK) when asked
by executives of the Marubeni
Corporation.

Lockheed's former Japanese agents
push the sale of Lockheed
to the airline which eventually bought 21 of them.

Counsel for the three former
Marubeni officials said their
statements by their clients had
not been used as evidence in the
prosecution's opening submission,
although statements were
not supported to be introduced
until after the examination of
other evidence.

The trial resumes on March
2 and is expected to last at
least three years.—Reuters and
Agence France-Presse.

persuade people to change their
dinner tastes.

Arctic protest: British animal
lovers will fly to the Arctic to
try to save some of the baby
seals. Twenty-four members of
the Greenpeace Foundation, a
conservation group, will attempt
to stop the hunters from club-
bing the seals to death.

The foundation that carries
its name is preparing to set up
a synthetic fur factory in New-
foundland and guarantee export
outlets for its production.

Professional hunters along the
coast will be brutally caught, 15,000 seal
pups a day. If the killing is
allowed to go on these seals
will be extinct within 10 years.

Last year thousands of people
donated cash to send the Canadian-based
Green Peace to the Arctic. They stood
in front of the hunters' shops
and tried to talk to them, then put
themselves between the hunters
and the seals.

—Reuters

Mr Ehrlichman loses plea to Supreme Court

Washington, Feb 22.—The Supreme Court refused today to review Mr John Ehrlichman's conviction of conspiracy and perjury in connexion with the 1971 burglary of the office of Mr Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist.

The court let stand a decision
by the Circuit Court of Appeals in Washington that Mr Ehrlichman, a senior White House aide under President Nixon, was rightly convicted.

Mr Ehrlichman told the judges that the break-in was conducted for the purpose of gathering foreign intelligence information and therefore was legal.—AP.

—Reuters

Mr Ehrlichman

loses plea to Supreme Court

Kabul, Feb 22.—The Grand Assembly (Loya-Jirga) of Afghan tribes has adopted the Afghan Republic's first constitution but which many observers consider to be less liberal than the old Royal Constitution.

The assembly, part nominated by the Government, part by popular assemblies, made few alterations to the draft constitution submitted to it on January 31 by President Daud. The text adopted stipulates a strong executive embodied in the President and two assemblies with limited powers.

President Daud will have the right to appoint more representatives to the Loya-Jirga under special circumstances notably for amending the constitution and declaring war. The traditional Loya-Jirga assembly will be maintained for the election, by two-thirds majority, of a president of the republic.

Legislative power is to be in the hands of an assembly elected by universal suffrage.

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—Reuters

Quebec Premier
'not criminally to
blame' for death

Montreal, Feb 22.—A coroner has ruled that Mr René Lévesque, the Quebec Prime Minister, was not criminally responsible for killing a pedestrian while driving before dawn here on Feb. 1.

Mr Maurice Laniel said no public inquest would be held as the victim, Mr Edgar Trotter, aged 62, was "unavoidably killed".

SPORT

Football

Clough and Taylor turn Derby down

Brian Clough, unpredictable as ever, has decided that his future is with Nottingham Forest. Despite the confidence of George Hardy, Derby County's vice-chairman, that he had persuaded Clough and his assistant, Peter Taylor, to return to the Baseball Ground three and a half years after their acrimonious departure, Forest won the battle at a four-hour meeting yesterday.

Stuart Dryden, vice-chairman of Forest, said: "Brian and Peter have told us they will ensure the full period of their contract." Dryden delayed the announcement long enough to allow Clough to drive to Derby, so that he could be the first to break the news to Mr. Hardy. He arrived at the ground just before 4 pm, to be greeted by a crowd of around 100 supporters shouting: "Welcome back Brian," and "We want Brian Clough."

Mr. Dryden added: "I've had long and frank talks. I cannot deny there have been problems but they are all settled now and I am naturally delighted with the outcome. Derby have done everything according to the book and I am pleased that Forest's new chairman has not changed right until the very last moment of the talks in Nottingham today," he said. "I have always wanted to have the chance of managing players like McFarland and Gemm again."

Clough emerged after a 20-minute discussion with Mr. Hardy and confirmed that he was remaining with Forest. "I have wanted to come back to Derby once more, the day after yesterday's change of heart. My mind was not changed right until the very last moment of the talks in Nottingham today," he said. "I have always wanted to have the chance of managing players like McFarland and Gemm again."

Clough said: "I have been 'flattered' and 'elated' by Derby's offer. 'So much so, that it has taken a long time for me to come to this decision.'

Clough was not prepared to discuss what would follow during the meetings at Nottingham or between him and Mr. Hardy. "I am not coming back and that is that," Clough said. "I am not coming back to Derby, nor had I put pressure on him or had offered a more lucrative contract. I am not prepared to discuss what would follow during the meetings at Nottingham or between him and Mr. Hardy."

Mr. Hardy said that he was "sick and bitterly disappointed" by Clough's decision. "They have the right to choose and we can do no more than make the offer. If they will be good to come out of it, I will be good to accept it by our supporters, that the board have acted with their views and desires in mind, but I hope they give us credit for attempting to bring back what I still consider to be the best manager available in the game."

Murphy and his assistant, Davie Gradi, last night accepted contracts with Derby until the end of the year. After a two-hour informal board meeting, Mr. Murphy said: "We will be at work to start being manager of Derby and I am still manager of Derby, very much so."



Little (right) scores the first of his three goals at Highbury last night.

Villa find the way to Wembley as Rangers seek spiteful redress

By Norman Fox

Football Correspondent

Aston Villa 3 QP Rangers 0

Aston Villa will make their fifth appearance in the Football League Cup final when they play Everton at Wembley on April 1. In order to be able to claim that record, they have had to prove themselves many times, but probably never as arduously or skilfully as in their three semi-final round meetings with Queen's Park Rangers. They did not play a day's rest in either of the three games, and my mind was not changed right until the very last moment of the talk in Nottingham today," he said. "I have always wanted to have the chance of managing players like McFarland and Gemm again."

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Roker Park crowd now believe in miracles

By Keith Macklin

Sunderland 6

West Bromwich Albion 1

Every night is Mafeking night at Sunderland these days. The equable, placid temperament of Jimmy Adamson is much needed just now to balance the manic energy of the Sunderland team and supporters. After last night's remarkable 6-1 win over West Bromwich Albion, the Roker Park supporters strummed away firmly believing that the miracle is about to happen that will keep them in Division One. The bottom plaudits are:

Crystal Palace 23 6 11 22 26 18

Sunderland 23 6 9 10 28 4 37 17

Tottenham 25 6 14 31 50 17

West Ham 25 6 15 24 37 30 17

Certainly, last night's victory took Sunderland from bottom place to twentieth and such is the excitement on Wearside that Tottenham Hotspur, West Ham United, Bristol City and others must be looking fearfully over their shoulders.

Sunderland, having disposed of Middlesbrough in Saturday's most improbable result, carded an immediately where they had left off. Within 25 seconds they were dead. Lee put away one of his trademark headers and the rest, Azor, held off a series of challenges to crack the ball past Osborne. It was an uporous start, but more sensations were to follow, as the team that went 1-0 down, times without scoring a single goal, made the total 10 in two matches.

With Osborne apparently un-

ing an injured hand, and the

although it was possibly that tackle, more than any other single incident, that steered Villa into greater effort.

Rangers did themselves no favours by anticipating trouble, and their idea of having Eastoe in the attack from the beginning was a case of a tactical substrate, and using Givens in an midfield position meant Little was beginning attacking seriously. Gray flicked a shot over the top when Francis pulled an attempted clearance across his own goal, and after 10 minutes Villa had a lead. In the 20th minute, Givens, who had been a threat throughout, scored his first goal of the night and there was little more that they could offer against this Villa team, who supply such exciting, straightforward, yet thoughtful football.

Villa end of course, their own disappointing form.

Until the middle stages of the second half the flow remained strongly against Rangers. Then, for a few minutes, Francis captured some inspiration, weaving through ridge sprouting our again to slice an acrobatic shot. Thomas lashed another shot over the bar, and Bowles nearly trickled the ball up to the goalkeeper when any sort of shot could have been taken. Little, however, pulled Rangers' night back, and there was little more that they could offer against this Villa team, who supply such exciting, straightforward, yet thoughtful football.

Villa's notable ability to pack

in a number of citizens is particu-

larly praiseworthy, and it brought

Little's third goal, a couple of

minutes from time when Mortimer roared up along the left side, drew Parkes from his line, and centred for Little to push the ball into the empty goal.

Mcalloch, who was not alto-

gether composed, played an inde-

pendent role in the final 10 minutes of the game, when they

forced the replay in extra time

and, using his pace, he was able

to score his second goal of the

night, his third overall, and

the final goal of the night.

On the evidence of last night's

match, the temptation is for that

Villa were already at Wembley.

These last had to be tempered with some respect for Rangers' known powers of recovery. But when a corner from Cropley was firmly pushed out by Parkes for Little to turn and hit the ball back, the net was clear. Little's last goal, however, was no doubt that it would take more than a surge of second wind to overcome the problems set by

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ridge sprouting our again to slice

an acrobatic shot. Thomas lashed

another shot over the bar, and

Bowles nearly trickled the ball

up to the goalkeeper when any sort

of shot could have been taken.

Little, however, pulled Rangers' night back, and there was little

more that they could offer against

this Villa team, who supply such

exciting, straightforward, yet

thoughtful football.

Villa's notable ability to pack

in a number of citizens is particu-

larly praiseworthy, and it brought

Little's third goal, a couple of

minutes from time when Mortimer

roared up along the left side, drew

Parkes from his line, and centred

for Little to push the ball into the

empty goal.

McAlloch, who was not alto-

gether composed, played an inde-

pendent role in the final 10 minutes

of the game, when they

forced the replay in extra time

and, using his pace, he was able

to score his second goal of the

night, his third overall, and

the final goal of the night.

On the evidence of last night's

match, the temptation is for that

Villa were already at Wembley.

These last had to be tempered with some respect for Rangers' known

powers of recovery. But when a

corner from Cropley was firmly

pushed out by Parkes for Little

to turn and hit the ball back,

the net was clear. Little's last goal,

however, was no doubt that it would

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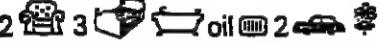
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حکمة من الأصل

Taking a gourmet with a pinch of salt

to name the ingredients of some 120 garnishes from Dubarry (which is cauliflower), via St Germain (mashed dried peas), Cray (carrots), to Walewska (lobster and truffles).

Now it so happens that the great kitchens of the world have as their title a book called *La Repertoire des Cuisines* by A. Escoffier. In this illustrious chef lists the garnishes, and today's chef of the kitchens, when consulting the menu, consults the *Repertoire*, picks out a garnish and adds it to *Fillet de Sole* on the menu. Let us say he has chosen *Mouurreuil* which is a surround of potato balls in shrimp sauce with the fish coated in sauce *vin blanc*. As *Mouurreuil* is not a particularly well-known garnish the likelihood is that the fish cook will reach for his copy of the *Repertoire*, look up the garnish and prepare it.

The restaurant head waiter will do likewise (they all have copies of the book) and at the pre-lunch meeting he will inform his station head waiter that the *Sole Mouurreuil* is, of course, the garnish of potato balls in shrimp sauce with a *sauce vin blanc* coating the fillets.

The good waiter, when a customer hovers around the fish on the menu, will explain what a *Mouurreuil* is. The less good will say "For a customer to ask for a *Fillet de Sole* Montreuil . . . ?" and give him the recently acquired knowledge. What is it exactly that the judges are trying to find out?

There are over 100 classified garnishes in the *Repertoire*. Is this to be a test of memory? In which case the Leslie Welsches rather than the lovers of gastronomy would win. If it is a test of knowledge, all you need to know is where the blousy *Repertoire* has been put and how to make a shrimp sauce and a white wine sauce. They do not ask that.

Another test was to give finalists a classic sauce and ask them for the missing ingredient. In the *Sunday Telegraph* contest they provided a *Tartare* Sauce without the gherkins—*Tartare* being a maroune spiced with chopped parsley, onion, capers and gherkins. Two of the six finalists got it right. Among others, for whom one had slight sympathy, were those who said there was no salt; the tartare was certainly underseasoned.

Now it so happens that although pastry, onion, capers and gherkins, all finely chopped are the classic garnish that turns a maroune into a tartare, it is to my taste very much nicer with chopped chives and chopped capers, and the majority of people who care for food will have rested the classic sauce and adapted it to their own palate. Damn it all, Escoffier finally lost all credibility by nominating Nestle's Maggi Meat Extract as an integral part of a *Sauces Hollandaise*. A gourmet should, in my



opinion, be one who makes a dish and identifies the ingredients, more or less, and decides whether or not it is to his taste, and to hell with the fact that some elderly sage said otherwise.

I once suggested to Egon Rony that rather than send his inspectors higgledy-piggledy to eateries all over the place we should send them all, unbeknown to each other, to the same establishment at the same time, give each of them the same meal with racin butter, marvellous home-baked bread, stale toast, tough meat, beautiful sauce, etc., and compare their reports before crowning which would be unleashed on the restaurants of the land.

Towards the end of the test the finalists had some modalities of venison, recognized by only one out of six; lamb cutlets (two out of six for those) and finally, in a blindfolded drink test, they were given eight glasses. All of them recognized Champagne and none of

them identified Coca Cola. Two thirds did not recognize the beer; one thought the glass of milk was water and another tasted and tasted it and then gave up.

I suppose that tasting might have been easier if one of the glasses had not contained pure lemon juice and, while this was correctly identified by all, the third or fourth identifying sip cannot have done much for future beverages.

In the *Sunday Telegraph* Silver Spoon competition the winner was a lady who was very erudite on wine, its derivation geographically and oenologically (including which grapes went towards what kinds of wine where). Of course, she has my respect and congratulations; also the judges' prize of £3,000 and I don't know what else. Nevertheless, I have a sneaking suspicion that when her friends get to hear about this, she is going to need all that money to pay for her lonely meals.

Times Newspapers Ltd, 1977.

As the Queen celebrates her Silver Jubilee, her old military corps in which she served and the other women's services of the Crown are about to celebrate their Diamond Jubilee. The royal ladies have always been loyal supporters of the female services, and, accordingly, there will be a majestic royal thanksgiving parade at Westminster Abbey on March 3.

Serving members of the WRNS, WRAC, and WRAF, and their respective nursing services will be on parade, chestnut arms back, with heavily decorated and magnificently uniformed warhorses of the original organizations formed 60 years ago. The Queen Mother is Commandant-in-Chief of the WRAC. Princess Anne is Chief Commander of the WRNS. Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, is Air Marshal of the WRAF. The Queen herself, in addition to being head of all the armed services female and male, joined the ATS in 1945, and was commissioned as a second subaltern, training at No 1 Motor Transport Training Centre at Camberley. It was her first venture outside the sheltered world of royal adolescence, and, by all accounts, she relished it.

It is not, in fact, easy to establish an exact date for when British women decided that war was too serious a business to be left to their men, and fell in to arms beside them, without necessarily falling into their hands. It would be pedantic to go back to Boudicca or Penthesilea and her Amazon infantry, those ladies from hell and forerunners in costume and ferocity of the killed regiments. But women have served with the Army in an unofficial capacity for many centuries. The wives of soldiers accompanied their husbands to the wars and did the laundry and other domestic duties of the regiment, nursed the sick, comforted the fit, and sometimes aborted the bilities.

Phoebe Smith joined the Fifth Regiment of Foot as a private in 1750. Her husband was also in the regiment, and she fought beside him around the battlefields of Europe for a number of years, before eventually admitting her sex to her associated commanding officer, who cannot have conducted very rigorous regimental inspections.

Florence Nightingale took a small party of women to Scutari during the Crimean War. Although they had no official standing, Nightingale's nurses represented women's first organized attempt to join in the most exclusive and absurd of masculine activities. They were the founding matrarchs of what has since become Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps. After the Boer War the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry, with the agreeable

acronym FANY, was formed to drive the horse-drawn ambulance to the battlefield and carry the wounded away.

When the world earthquake of the First World War began, women were eager to do their bit; and a number of voluntary organizations were formed. The Women's Voluntary Service drilled intermittently in khaki after work, and were given pretty dull and menial jobs in canteens. The Queen Mother was a society of cooks raised by Lady Llandaff. After two years of war, she was given a charge of men. So for the first time the Army Council raised a dismounted and uniformed body of women, other than nurses, for employment with the Army on the lines of communication and at headquarters behind the lines.

The first women of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps arrived in France in 1917. They were organized as soldiers and worked side by side with them; but they were classified officially as "camp followers", and were accordingly subject to military law only in the same way as civilians accompanying the army on active service. The WAAC performed so well and so bravely, particularly when the last German offensive of 1918 almost broke the Allied line, that as a symbolic recognition of their military honors Queen Mary accepted the rank of their commandant-in-chief and gave the corps her name.

After the war the WAAC was disbanded and demobilized. But the precedent of 1917 had been set. It had been shown that women were needed and could go to war. By 1938 it was clear that they were going to be needed again, and the Auxiliary Territorial Service, the ATS of beloved memory of the Second World War, was formed.

At first the ATS were still classified, insultingly, as "camp followers". But in 1941, when women started to be conscripted, the ATS became subject to military law; and women were for the first time accepted as an integral part of the Army. At their peak there were 250,000 women in the ATS, considerably more than the strength of the whole Army at the beginning of the war. They served in every theatre and scene of the war, and performed almost every military activity except the actual front line business of bullet and bayonet.

In 1946 the Secretary of State for War said in a eulogy of the ATS: "By their willing acceptance of work which, until the war, had been thought to be beyond their powers, they made a real and indeed invaluable contribution to victory." As a consequence of their performance in two world wars, the Army belatedly recognized that its women were indispensable. And in 1949 the Women's Royal Army Corps, regular daughter of the ATS,

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ciphering. After offer and

colonels in the price

recognized that the Digital

1949 the WRNS became

and permanent part of the

RAF Navy. Today the Wren

270 officers and 2,700

was formed in 1918 at the

as the Royal Air Force. By

it was disbanded 32,000 women

served in its ranks. In 1939 the

companies of the ATS trans-

to form the new Won-

Auxiliary Air Force, and par-

their new blue uniforms for

first time at the national defen-

rally in Hyde Park, where the

salute was taken by George VI.

1943 nearly 182,000 airwomen were

serving at a multiplicity of trades

at home and overseas, with distinc-

tion, danger, and death, as part

of the RAF.

After the war the Government

announced that in view of their

services it intended to retain women

in the armed forces of the Crown

on a permanent basis. And the

WRAF of today was born. Today

305 officers and 3,785 airwomen

serve in the Women's Royal Air

Force, and are employed in most

ground branches and trade groups.

A few women serve in the general

duties (flying) branch, but only in

the job of air loadmaster.

As we increasingly employ people

according to their capacities and

propensities rather than their sex,

women will continue to find new

duties in the defence forces of the

Crown. This month we celebrate the

long and honourable road they have

marched in the past 60 years, in the

van of women's liberation, and to

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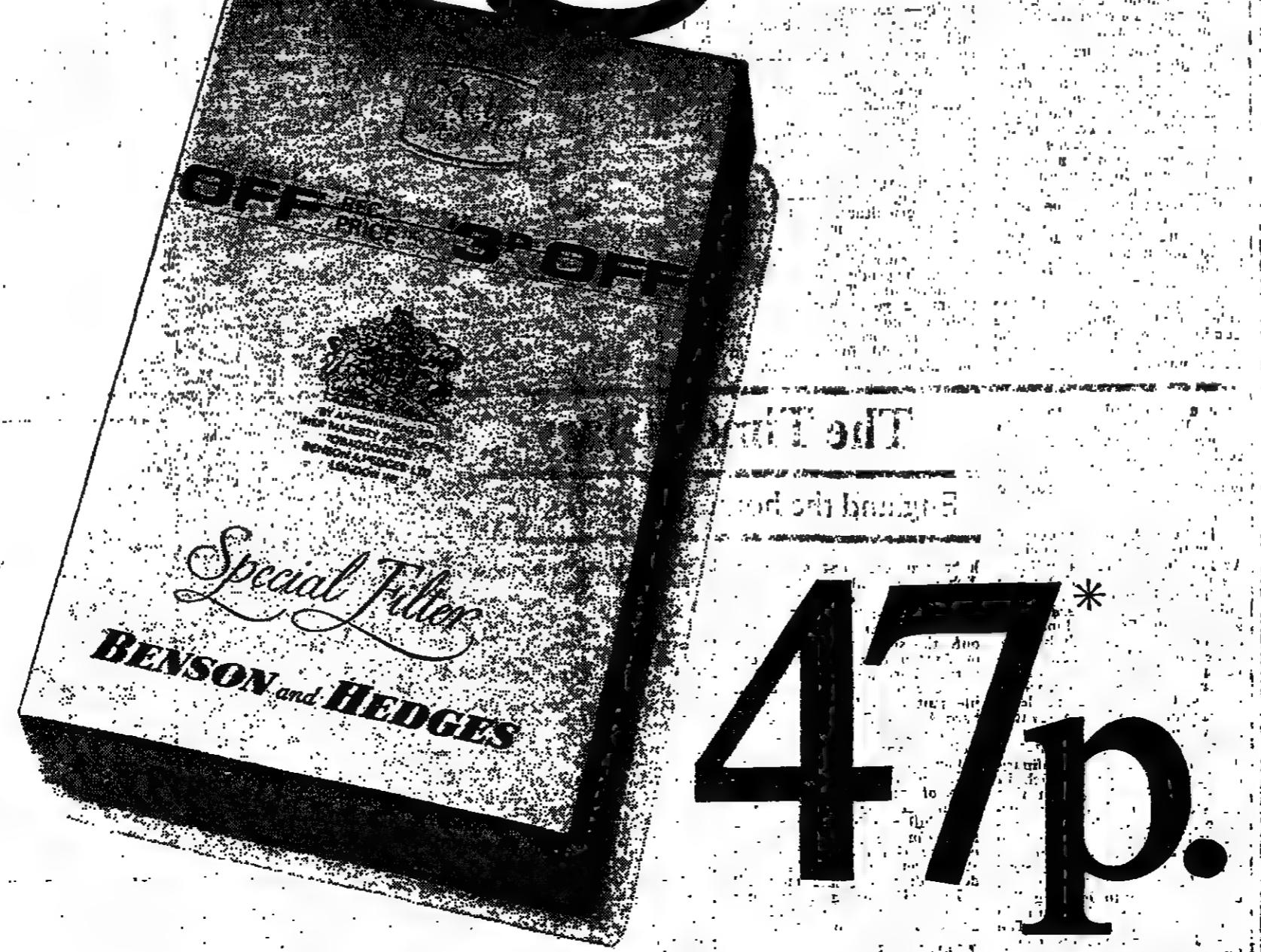
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The strategy to beat ever-rising food prices

Cheap food in Britain is already, in consumer eyes, a thing of the past and, without the politically unlikely expedient of rationing, will remain so. The economic implications of this make a sound strategy for home food production imperative.

The current policies of agriculture, both here and in Britain, are concerned mainly with short-term issues, such as the exact adjustments to be made to the green pound and how to manage temporary surpluses arising from official prices. Few official policy statements look more than five years ahead, and five years is a very short period in which to adjust the management of a single farm, let alone carry out any programme of breeding or research to meet new consumer needs.

Conscious of this, a small group, drawn from a wide spectrum of agricultural activities, practitioners, financial and academic, met in Cambridge in 1976, to look for some consensus on long-term strategic aims. While we were not unanimous on every point, there was considerable agreement.

In the long run, we believe, food exports are bound to cost us in real terms, even though there may be periods when surpluses (such as appear to be building up again on world markets) are surplus to requirements. The many commodities exported to North America and Australia, and there are new bidders better able to pay for them than ourselves. Continued increase of world population also presses up supplies which inevitably fluctuate with the weather. Here, there is a case for increased self-sufficiency as a security measure.

Most important of the limiting factors in expansion is the land available. The price of agricultural land in Britain is now too high to be serviced by food production at the average level, a sign that land scarcity is already upon us. Proposals recently put forward in a report from the Centre for Agricultural Strategy at Reading for a reform of planning procedures, giving precedence to agriculture and geography, are the minimum necessary.

To ensure that rural land is not unnecessarily transferred to urban uses and that it is restored to productive use after mineral extraction, and also that recreation and nature conservation needs are catered for, a statutory land commission, charged with conservation and land use decisions, is required.

How far current levels of taxation in the United Kingdom are a deterrent to new investment for increased production is a matter of some dispute; the problem is not confined to agriculture. Taxation of earnings can in fact be a potent instrument of policy; it can, for instance, be used to encourage multiple land use or to discriminate in favour of farming systems which further the aims of national policy. But confiscatory levies on capital seem to threaten the basic structure of the industry without offering any new framework for its operation. A mere drift towards socialization of land, without consideration of its subsequent management, could be disastrous for the nation's food supply.

To some extent high land prices and high rents have been a stimulus to higher production. United Kingdom productivity in agriculture has risen impressively over the past 25 years, consistently outperforming the rest of the

J. B. Hutchinson
The author was previously Professor of Agriculture at Cambridge University.

Many will die from cold this winter

At a conservative estimate 700,000 pensioners in the United Kingdom risk "Hypothermia" every winter, and many don't just risk it—they die. Cold may kill 45,000 old people this winter, and that is if the weather is mild. Higher heating costs and colder weather increase the threat and the toll could rise to 81,000 extra deaths.

Body temperature drops dangerously below the minimum regarded as safe by the Department of Health. Living in constant cold, as they often do, it creeps up unnoticed by many old people until too late.

Old people in this grave risk need Day Centres. Here they find more than warmth: the joy of friendship instead of loneliness, the chance of a good hot meal at low cost, and the cheerfulness that comes from mixing with others.

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Help the Aged achieves a great deal with every £ donated, thanks to dedicated volunteers. Consider how a legacy can help continue your goodwill.

If you have a warm home and something to be thankful for, send your goodwill gift quickly. Your donation is desperately needed to help old people. So please use the FREEPOST facility and address your gift to: Hon. Treasurer, The Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Room 16, FREEPOST 37, LONDON W1E 6UZ. (No stamp needed).

* Please let us know if you would like your gift used for a particular purpose.

Bernard Levin

A nation for all that, even if it is just a dot on the map

When the Government tells a group of people dependent upon it that there is going to be no "sell-out" of their interests, we may be reasonably confident that a sell-out has been decided on in principle, and when they are in addition promised that nothing will be done "behind their back", it can be taken as certain that the method by which the sell-out will be effected has already been devised in outline, and that a subcommittee of officials in the appropriate ministry is engaged upon working out the details. (In any case, prominent users whom I have consulted are unanimously of the opinion that the ultimate condition of one who is sold out behind his back is in no way different from that of one who undergoes the experience face foremost.)

Thus it is with the Falkland Isles, or Las Islas Malvinas, as we shall no doubt shortly be learning to call them. Yet it is not the fate of the islands and their inhabitants that is my theme this morning, though my thoughts take its key from them. Certainly the Falklanders want to remain British, and certainly there is much force in their argument that if Argentina wishes to govern them she might strengthen her claim to be allowed to do so if she could show any conscientious ability to govern herself. But I am not here to wave flat in the direction of our far-off cousins.

What I would like us to contemplate together is, first, the curious and sad situation in which so many remnants of empire find themselves, and second (much more significant) the extraordinary and enduring power of nationalist feeling, a rock on which so many of the plans of the more ideominded arrangers of history and geography have founded.

This truth may be seen at its clearest in the British West Indies. That the future of this chain of islands, few of which can ever be truly independent, must lie in a Federation is beyond question, with the applause of all men of goodwill: what is more, it had some of the wisest and best of West Indian leaders



British police, armed with suitcases, head for patrol duties on the sunny shores of Anguilla after the British invasion.

such or inside. And indeed, such a Federation was set up, and launched on its way into the future with the applause of all men of goodwill: what is more, it had some of the wisest and best of West Indian leaders

both Jamaica and Trinidad, by far the largest and strongest of the former British possessions in the area: since then, even the micro-Federation of St Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla (are there London bobbies, sole reminders of the stirring exploits of Sir Harold Drake-Wilson, still patrolling those golden sands?) has demonstrated that no one of its constituent parts is willing to remain associated with any other; hardly Leeward Island will lie down with a Windward, and Montserrat refused to be seen speaking to either, choosing to remain a Crown Colony.

I suppose it is, in the based on the need of all beings to be rooted, to sit in one place, to be conscious of their own separate existence. We are all emotional ligaments, and through flow into the earth for mysterious as they are: full. But it is into the that they flow, and somehow, we all have come further: here stand no other.

Chesterton wrote a about men who were willing to die for Nursing Hill extreme position, no doubt only by a small degree extreme than the willing men throughout history: and more important, for a plot of ground where the numbers will not trounce. The age-old dream "the Parliament of man, the federation of the world" far from being realised as it is unlikely ever to be so. What is my nation? asks the tearful Captain Morris before Harfleur demonstrating that the my quality of the Irish goes rather further than the *Theatre*, but he is not gone in liquor that he can add, of any who would in his nation's honour, that impudent ish a villain, a bastard, and a knave, a rascal". But though we smile at Captain Macmillan had better guard our own when we speak of him and there is no nation on earth which is not true, namely, not the Falklands or Lichtenstein either imagine.

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ROUS NEGO

British
negotiations
with the
West Indies
have been
going on
since 1970
and the
British
Government
is keen to
reach a
final
agreement
on the
future of
the islands.

Equally, foreign aid need

be coordinated so that it

forms to the broad object

Only about a fifth of the aid budget of the Commu-

nity member states is chan-

through the European Deve-

lopment Fund. And, of course,

such given in aid fall far

short of what is needed to meet

the scale of the problem.

Only the Netherlands and

Community countries currently

accepted target of allocating

of gross national product

foreign aid. At the o-

utreme is Italy, providing

0.1 per cent of gross na-

ional product.

At the same time, and no

so tightly bound up with the

relations of EEC-Third World

relations is the issue of mi-

norities, as economic and so

pressures threaten to

migrants into a sub-proletariat

alienated from the main-

stream of European life.

It is the formidable task

of negotiations, of making

Community policy on mi-

norities that now faces the

Community and all that

is that distance

held about the future

Europe and the World. The shift in

Oxford Public Affairs Report 3, price 50p.

fully developed

Calder

for food

Gives them a

cultural regula-

tion

and the

Agencies

and the

territories

and the

en if it is
map



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CALLAGHAN'S STRATEGY

Minister is not an he does not feel the explain his strategy situation would make more difficult to after nearly a year in can however see a end in his appointments speeches he has taken, at which he is aiming restoration as a moderate government between practical and the trade

Callaghan is in the dition of Labour

He is prepared to is about the character of Party where felt it necessary to in order to maintain unity. Mr Callaghan's since between social and the unions is he same as that of Gaitskell, though less and more cunning ill and less radical

ices have since 1974 about Party towards erate position. The trentist pledges of been, enacted, and a radical legislation

nifestos still in the European refer- great success of Mr first administration, isolationist policy is practical business it has trained min- nquisitive between the the impossible. The reaching agreement international Monetary limits on the econ- rich the government

The left wing axis Mr Benn in the es of Employment v-so powerful in first broken by Mr Mr Benn and re- demolished by appointment as Leader

it is now dominated by objectives are the use of the Prime want to reestablish-

lish the Labour Party as a pragmatic party of government, relying on a firm trade union base, but following those policies which seem to be in the national interest without too much regard for socialist purity. The country where such a government has been most successful is West Germany: there are fewer and fewer significant differences between Mr Callaghan's leadership and Herr Schmidt's.

The latest Cabinet making, which was made necessary by Mr Crook's death, confirms this pattern. Dr Owen is a man ideally suited to promotion in such a government. He is young and very able; he believes in the interdependence of Europe; he believes in a fair society but in Labour Party terms he is not at all a man of the left. Equally welcome is the appointment to the Cabinet of Mr Joel Barnett whose approach to government expenditure is tough minded and practical. Mr Barnett is what might in the Drones Club have been termed a very good egg, but he is certainly a hard-boiled egg, as spending ministers have discovered.

Mr Callaghan may, therefore, be confident that he has restored the predominance of the moderates in the Cabinet and in Parliament. He has made less progress in dealing with the trade unions and still less progress in dealing with the National Executive Committee and the Party at large.

The left is not as strong in the trade unions as it was five years ago, but the attitude of the trade unions towards the government is still that of the social contract; the Government are expected to do things which the trade unions want in return for trade union concessions about wages. Most of the things which the trade unions ask for represent policies which the government would otherwise reject, such as instance as the introduction of a wealth tax. That runs counter to the need to conciliate management and capital at a time when both management and capital are already taxed most severely. This year the

trade unions may be unable to give their consent to a further period of any effective incomes policy or may demand a price which cuts across the Prime Minister's strategy of moderation. There is also the objective to the social contract in principle that it allows the unions to impose their will on matters which Parliament ought to decide for the general good.

The National Executive Committee are an even greater problem, if a much smaller power. The small constituency parties send some very cranky and unrepresentative people to the Labour Party Conference, and a cranky Conference is represented by a National Executive which from an electoral point of view might often as well be working for the other side. This is a recurrent problem in the Labour Party. Even Attlee had to put up with the indiscretions of Professor Laski, but it is now worse than it was in Laski's day when the trade unionists on the National Executive reliably supported the Labour leadership.

The reform of the Labour Party has only gone one third and that the easiest third of the way. To win an election the Prime Minister would also have to be able to show a substantial reduction in the rate of inflation. He will obviously not be able to rely on as great a contribution from pay restraint in the next two years as during the past two.

The odds are therefore against the Prime Minister being able both to reform his party internally and to achieve such results in government that he can win the next election. The thing is not impossible, but it is so difficult as to be unlikely. Yet when one looks at the people in the present Cabinet, and even more significantly at the distribution of power inside the present Cabinet, there can be little doubt of the general character of the Prime Minister's strategy. He is trying to conciliate management and capital at a time when Hugh Gaitskell to save the party he loves; he is fighting for

sacrifice.

Like most who have looked at the matter, Mr Ham is evidently regards as disastrous the decision to restore the gold standard with an overvalued pound. Hind sight seems to have informed him, however, like others before, to infer that the decision was made and imposed upon Churchill by a narrow group. His own source shows that it was not. With so many documents now available, as well as outstanding specialist studies, which Mr Ham neglects, quasi-conspiracy theories about the great disaster of 1925 are irrelevant.

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From the Vice-Chancellor of Bristol University

Sir, "The full cost of providing university tuition for a student is perhaps in the region of £1,000 per annum and upwards (and I am well enough aware of the difficulties in establishing my precise figures)." Thus Mr Alford in your issue today (February 17).

Mr Alford has fallen into the hole

already occupied by countless others, most of whom should know better, of dividing the total expenditure per annum of universities by the total number of students and squaring that with "the full cost of providing university tuition".

Universities do so many things

other than teaching students. It is

the majority of whom do not

receive grants on the British scale, from coming here at all. Faced

with the de facto exclusion of their

students, who could blame French

and West German universities from

excluding ours? This would mean

the end of many similar arrangements up and down

the country.

The fees issue does, of course,

have much wider implications, but

it seems to me that the very real

problem of universities with foreign

exchange agreements has been

neglected in the debate so far.

Surely there can be no reasonable

objection to a solution on the basis

of strict reciprocity.

Yours faithfully,

GEORGE E. WARNER,

65 Devonport Avenue,

Heswall, North Humberside.

February 18.

From Dr K. A. Long

DEUTSCH
 MILE JACQ
 Expansion

Telford
 is the space
 for the people
 or growing
 companies

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

England chief es warning of t opportunity avert closures

Shakespeare 130,000 workers in its component plants given their sternest ultimatum to avert the threat to my future, and that has been disputed and Leyland has urged the Government to allow much greater flexibility in future wages strategy.

Company officials admit that their are anomalies in the wages structure and Leyland has urged the Government to allow much greater flexibility in future wages strategy in order to resolve them.

Meanwhile, it has over recent weeks faced strike action by groups of workers objecting to changes in working arrangements, and now it has a big strike on its hands by toolmakers, who want separate wage bargaining negotiations and the restoration of skilled differentials.

Management attitudes to these kind of disputes are that while they sympathize over the question of anomalies in the wages structure, they will not negotiate unilaterally with individual groups of workers.

A management spokesman said last night: "If we were, for instance, to concede the toolmakers' demand for separate negotiating rights we could be faced with scores of similar demands from other groups."

Leyland models out of production because of the toolmakers' strike, and other separate disputes, include the Marina, four Triumph models, the Allegro, Jaguars and the new Rover SDI.

Yesterday Leyland warned 56 men on strike at its spare parts depot near Oxford: "Get back to work or lose your job."

The depot supplies up to 50 Leyland distributors. Since the strike began a month ago, it has been paralysed with about 650 men laid off. Dealers are now facing the anger of motorists whose cars cannot be repaired.

The men went on strike demanding compensation for being laid off last December during a strike at the depot.

Ford stoppage: A one-day strike by 45 men in a section of the body plant at Ford's Halewood factory yesterday led to 700 other workers being sent home. The strike was in support of a man who was given a one-day suspension for refusing to obey a supervisor's instructions.

A company spokesman said that the assembly plant was not affected.

Sh stimulus in Carter Budget

Vol. 1
 Feb 22
 Carter today sent budget proposals to Congress. They involve a \$10 billion deficit than the Budget announced by the Administration in

Carter's 1978 provide further stimulus, besides tax measures. The new

year is now forecasted output of goods in the United States by about 6 per

12 months to the end of this year and 5 per cent in the

budget sharply illustrates differences between new Administration and its predecessor, most notably in social assistance cut, while also resident Ford's proposed increase in social

Administration's includes a \$300m (77m) cut in the United States gross national product,

Ministers prepare Paris meeting to set scene for seven-nation economic talks in London

April date likely for summit curtain-raiser

 By David Blake
 Economics Correspondent

Preparations are now nearly complete for a meeting of senior ministers from all of the west's main industrial nations to lay the ground for the world economic summit to be held in London in early May.

April 14 and 15 seem to be the days for the preliminary meeting, which will be held at the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Officials in a number of national capitals are now expecting that the OECD ministerial session will be brought forward this year from June so that the ministers from the 24 members can do a vital preparatory work for the seven-nation summit.

If the ministerial meeting does take place in April, and this seems very likely, it will show that the London summit is aching at something much more concrete than was achieved during the two previous gatherings of leaders from the seven largest nations, which took place at Rambouillet in France in

November 1975 and in Puerto Rico in June 1976.

At their April meeting, the ministers are likely to study reports on the outlook for the western economies in the medium term with a view to suggesting ways of coping with the recession, which is now well-established as the deepest and most persistent since the war.

The session will provide an opportunity for all of the countries of the west to put across their points of view rather than restricting attendance to France, Germany, Canada, Italy, Japan, the United States and the United Kingdom, which are the regular attendees at economic summit meetings.

Countries excluded from this list have complained vociferously, particularly within the European Community, about the way in which decisions are taken over their heads.

Although the ministerial meeting will provide a vital opportunity for Finance and Foreign Ministers from the OECD countries to work out what they think should be done, it seems likely that any positive action will have to wait for

the summit itself. However, in the preparatory period Germany and Japan are coming under increasing pressure from other countries and most notably now the United States, to reflect the views of the Council of Ministers.

Officials have been spelling out with increasing frankness their view that these two nations are not doing enough to help the rest of the world out of recession or to cope with its balance of payments problems.

Some Administration officials have suggested that the Germans and Japanese should both try to get their domestic economies growing something like 2 percentage points faster than now seems likely while others have called for a 10 per cent reduction of the year and the Deutsch mark.

Both suggestions are aimed at dealing with a situation where one recent respected study suggested that Germany, Japan, Switzerland and the Netherlands would have a collective balance of payments surplus of \$3,000m in 1977 compared with a \$3,000m deficit if the West's trade deficit.

An indication of how hard the United

States intends to press its view, and how hard the Germans and Japanese will resist, could come next week at a session of the OECD's Economic Policy Committee. A sign of the importance being attached to this meeting by the United States is that Mr Charles Schultz, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors, is expected to attend.

The meeting could provide the first indication of the extent to which the United States is prepared to lobby to bring the other two members of the "Big Three" round to its point of view that more needs to be done to end the recession.

The results of the meeting next week will probably play an important role in determining the attitude adopted at the April ministerial meeting and in other more restricted meetings of officials to prepare the summit itself. The first of these will take place in Washington on March 12, according to reports from Tokyo, at the end of Mr Callaghan's visit to see President Carter, during which the summit is likely to form a major part of discussions.

Racal move gives hint of bid battle for Ultra

 By Desmond Quigley
 Doughty Group's bid for Electronic Holdings took a new turn yesterday when Racal Electronics announced that it had acquired a stake of

more than 10 per cent in Ultra. With the prospect of a contested bid and several candidates apart from Racal being mentioned in the stock market, Ultra's share price jumped another 27p yesterday to 175p. The shares are now trading nearly 25p above the effective cash value of Dowty's offer and 100p above the opening price last Thursday.

Meanwhile, Applied Digital Data Systems conceded defeat in its fierce fight with Racal to take over the American communications group Milgo Electronic. It accepted Racal's \$38 a share offer in respect of its 47 per cent of Milgo, which announced last night it had just secured a \$9m contract.

The board of Ultra Electronic decided to take no decision on the bid from Dowty, which has just over 12 per cent of the equity, after the disclosure of Racal's stake. Dowty is offering four of its Ultra shares.

Mr Edwin Birch, managing director of Ultra, commented: "We did not discuss the price or the merits of the bid. We find ourselves in a bit of a dilemma because we know from previous conversations that if we moved around, there are other people who might be interested."

Earlier the board had announced that it had received "several informal approaches" from different companies over the past few months and that since the Dowty bid "some of these approaches have been renewed".

Racal, whose shares rose 3p to 289 yesterday, disclosed that besides its existing stake of 10 per cent of Ultra, it had acquired on Monday a further 110,060 shares at between 144p and 148p as well as £25,000 nominal of loan stock.

Racal refused to disclose its intention, but there were rumours in the stock market that it had been stalking Ultra before being pre-empted by Dowty and that it would make a counter bid.

Ultra, Racal and Dowty are all Ministry of Defence contractors, but whereas Racal and Ultra are both strong in advanced electronics, Dowty is involved in hydraulics.

However, since Ultra is now on a firm-growth track—particularly with strong demand for its submarine tracking buoys—and has a small market capitalisation—£7.04m at yesterday's closing price—other potential suitors are being suggested.

Sir John Read, chairman of EMI, said yesterday: "What happens to Ultra is of concern to us because we have links with them through the Ministry of Defence."

He said that any decision to join in the fray would have to be left to the board, which meets next week.

City opens campaign against Bullock on threat to fund-raising

By Christopher Wildin

A concerted City effort is being launched to convince the Government that the introduction of the Bullock Committee's majority report on industrial democracy would create serious capital raising problems for many companies.

Representatives of all the leading suppliers of finance for industry are beginning a campaign to persuade ministers that capital will become either more difficult or more expensive to obtain, or both.

According to industry sources, it would also make sense for another pipeline to join Eso's proposed £200m ethylene plant at Moss Moran into the Grangemouth end of the grid.

The campaign got under way yesterday with the publication by a top clearing banker, a merchant banker and an institutional investor of the evidence they gave to the Bullock Committee last year, but which they feel was completely ignored.

They are Sir Eric Faulkner, chairman of Lloyds Bank; Mr Ian Fraser, deputy chairman of Lazard Frères, and Mr Peter Moody, joint secretary and investment manager of the Prudential Assurance. They were invited to give evidence to the Bullock Committee respectively as experts in the provision of short-term loans, loan and debt, and capital and equity finance.

In the hope that their views would be heard by legislators on worker democracy, they are sending copies of their evidence to the Prime Minister, the Chancellor and the Secretaries of State for Trade and Industry.

Similar lobbying is expected to come from other prominent City figures. Within the next day or two, the three main bodies representing investing institutions, the National Association of Pension Funds, the Association of Investment Trust Companies, and the Unit Trust Association, are expected

Sir Eric Faulkner yesterday: Banks might reappaise their lending facilities.

to make similar representations to Ministers.

Insurance companies, through the British Insurance Association and the Life Offices Association, are also preparing anti-Bullock submissions which are expected to be ready in about a month.

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ANOTHER YEAR OF RECORD SALES, PROFITS & EARNINGS

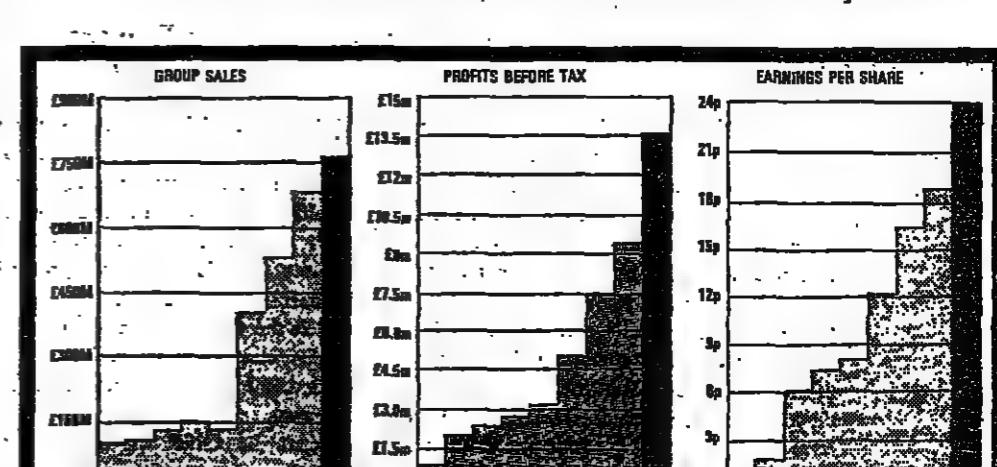
The year under review has maintained the unbroken progress of the Group over the last eleven years and previous record levels of turnover, profits and earnings per share have been comfortably exceeded.

Sales - up 11.3% to £768,402,000

Profits - up 45.4% to £13,564,000

Earnings per Ordinary Share - up 23% to 24p.

Dividend up by maximum allowed to 6.5p per share covered 3.4 times by available earnings. Shareholders who took up the one-for-one Rights issue at par, announced in November 1975, received a 119.9% increase in dividend income last year.



Copies of the Annual Report & Accounts for the year ended 30th September, 1976, may be obtained from the Secretary, S & W Berisford Limited, Berisford House, 50 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7QJ.

S & W Berisford Limited

he markets moved

The Times index: 164.04+2.97
 The FT index: 397.7+8.7

THE POUND

	Muirhead	Sp to 16.2p
4p to 47p	Orixy Printing	Sp to 11.1p
10p to 290p	Peko Walisden	20p to 400p
5p to 93p	Stobart & Fife	10p to 120p
10p to 313p	Unilever	20p to 440p
50p to 182p	Uit Scientific	10p to 16.2p
10p to 223p	Ventersport	10p to 125p
7p to 75p	Vesper	4p to 85p
6p to 57p	Ward & Gold	8p to 90p
3p to 41p	Welkom	10p to 145p
11p to 127p	Worth Bond	3p to 18p

Gold rose \$1.75 an ounce to close at \$137.85. SDR-S was 1.15656 on Tuesday, while SDR-E was 0.678732.

Commodities: Cocos prices rose. Reuters' index was at 1639.5. The devaluation rate was 1.7%.

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Notes for small denominations bank notes only as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank. The figures are not necessarily applicable to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

White House upsets banks

 From Our United States
 Economics Correspondent

President Carter plans to propose legislation that will enable the Federal Government to earn interest on the cash balances it maintains with private banks.

The new Budget, released today, states that this legislation will enable the Government to reduce its total interest payments on its outstanding debt. It notes that the Federal Government does not receive earnings on its cash balances and that upon enactment of the legislation it will

pay the banks full costs of the services the banks now provide free of charge.

This proposal will produce a major controversy. There is no doubt that the banks handling the Government's cash now get substantial profits from this activity. The banks will almost certainly fight hard to prevent congressional approval.

The Ford Administration always rejected this plan because of the banks' known opposition. The new Administration, however, is determined to reduce the Government's huge interest costs.

Washington, Feb 22.

Proposals that would require leading companies and the chief United States trade unions to notify the Government of planned price and wage increases before they take effect are being drafted, a White House spokesman announced today.

He stressed that President Carter firmly rejected wage and price controls and had no intention of seeking any form of voluntary pay and price controls.

Mr Meany said at a union conference that his organization would not cooperate.

Curbs on pensions 'almost certain' to come off in new pay policy

By Margaret Stone

Mr Roy Grantham, the general secretary of the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff, said yesterday that it was "almost certain" that the Government would remove the restrictions on improving company pension schemes during the next stage of the pay policy.

His statement has been welcomed by the pension industry, which itself has been pressing for this same relaxation. Mr Ron Peet, the chief executive of Legal and General Assurance, said last night: "Such action will particularly be in the interests of workers and women since they are the people most in need of pension scheme improvements."

However, both the Government and the TUC have made clear that any improvements in occupational pension schemes

must wait until after the Budget and be considered as part and parcel of the negotiations over any further phase in the pay policy.

APEX, a white-collar union, is the only one so far to make formal representation to the TUC that pension scheme improvements be included. In detail, although other unions and the TUC itself are in favour of exempting pension scheme improvements from pay restraint—if the price is not too high.

The Government, for its part, is known to have no objections to relaxing its rules about improving pension schemes over and above the present permitted level of bringing schemes up to the minimum level for contracting out of the new state earnings-related pension scheme coming into operation in April, 1978.

BA seeks £2 domestic route rise

British Airways yesterday outlined its case for a fares increase on domestic routes from April 1 and said it was likely to be back for more in November.

The state-owned airline put its case at the Civil Aviation Authority hearing of applications by United Kingdom airlines for permission to raise fares on domestic routes by between 5 per cent and 15 per cent.

British Airways' proposals would raise the London-Glasgow-Edinburgh tourist single fare by £2 to £28 and the London-Belfast fare by £1 to £28.

There have already been two increases in the past year.

Mr Arnold Heard, British Airways' route licensing manager, said the airline would make a profit of £605,500 before interest on its domestic network during the next financial year if the proposals are approved.

April's planned rises were intended to restore the "common rating" on the three trunk routes because it was intended to introduce the shuttle already operating between London and Scotland to the London-Belfast leg on April 1.

Mr Heard said the application had been brought about by rising costs.

But a rise of £2 in April on Scottish trunk routes "will mean returning with an application for a further increase—possibly £2—for November, 1977, to keep level with the general rate of inflation, and more specifically with anticipated related operating cost increases".

In brief

French-Soviet oil deal deadlocked over price

Paris, Feb 22—Negotiations for French imports of Soviet crude oil are deadlocked over price.

The Soviet Union is insisting on a flat 10 per cent increase, similar to that decided by 11 members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, while France is seeking a 5 per cent rise, in line with Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, the sources said.

The two French state-controlled companies involved in the talks are Société Elf-Aquitaine and CIE Française des Pétroles.

"The talks are deadlocked but not broken", one official said.

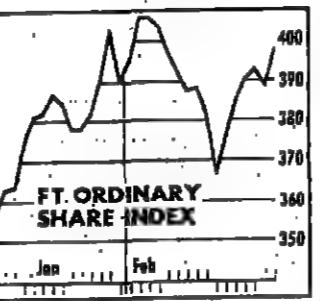
Imports of between 3.5 and 4 million tons of Soviet crude for the year beginning March 1 were planned.

Last year France imported 1.8 million tons of Soviet crude, an increase of 50 per cent.

Slight rise in raw steel output

Brussels, Feb 22—January production of raw steel in the countries represented in the International Iron and Steel Institute totalled 35.6 million metric tons, up 0.7 per cent from the December total and up to 3.5 per cent, from 34.4 million tons in January, 1976.

The IISI area accounts for 98.6 per cent of world steel production, and excludes the Soviet Union, other eastern block countries, China and North Korea.



Vosper sees 500 warship jobs at risk

Vosper Thornycroft, one of the country's three specialist warship builders, could face job losses if it fails to win a £4m order from the Ministry of Defence for a type 42 guided-missile destroyer. The order is expected to be placed with a shipyard within the next few weeks.

Sir John Rix, managing director of Vosper, who has been highly critical of the diversion of warship orders to non-specialist shipbuilders, said in London yesterday that if this order, or an equivalent frigate order did not go to Vosper, the company may eventually have to lay off up to 500.

Cunnell Laird, one of the non-specialist yards bidding for the project, is thought to be a strong contender for the contract. Some consolation is being found among builders in the expectation that the loser in the present battle would probably be compensated by the bringing forward of orders

Italian state group's top men protest

From John Earle

Rome, Feb 22 Professor Giuseppe Perrilli, chairman of the Italian state-owned conglomerate, IRI (Istituto per la Ricostruzione Industriale), today faced a senior staff revolt when 13 of the 15 top managers at the group's headquarters here threatened to resign.

Officially, their action was in protest against the appointment of Signor Fausto Calabria as financial coordinator for the group.

In practice, their attitude was seen by observers as a protest against the imposition of political rather than business standards in the management of the group.

An IRI spokesman denied that the 13 had already resigned, saying reports to this effect were without foundation.

Incidentally, what are off-peak times? Recently, in an alleged rationalization of off-peak use, I was offered an alteration in my storage heater and immersion heater so that they were set to use current from 4 am to 7.30 pm—not the most obvious off-peak hours!

I tried this and while it did not matter for the room-heater, it made an unacceptable difference to the water-heater. If a child had a bath early and there was the normal end-of-day wash-up, there was not hot water for 10 pm for a grown-up bath.

Fortunately, as a "preserved" tariff user I was able to get the switch put back in the old

Reduced tariffs for off-peak use of electricity

From Mrs W. E. A. Evans

Sir, in your issue of February 19, your correspondent, Roger Vile, discusses a reduction in night tariffs for electricity to divert consumption from peak times and spread the load on the generators. The CEGE seems only to envisage a reduction in respect of storage heaters.

What is needed (and I think this is not the first time it has been mentioned) is a reduced tariff for all domestic use in off-peak hours. This would simplify meters and time-switches and be of real benefit to workers who wash and iron and cook at night.

It is suggested that the CEGE would lose revenue there would be a considerable increase of use by, for instance, those (many of them elderly) who would like to switch on a dimplex or electric heater while in bed, or in the evening, or a one-bar fire to improve on their off-peak background heating or just to toast their toes before going to bed.

Incidentally, what are off-peak times? Recently, in an alleged rationalization of off-peak use, I was offered an alteration in my storage heater and immersion heater so that they were set to use current from 4 am to 7.30 pm—not the most obvious off-peak hours!

I tried this and while it did not matter for the room-heater, it made an unacceptable difference to the water-heater. If a child had a bath early and there was the normal end-of-day wash-up, there was not hot water for 10 pm for a grown-up bath.

Fortunately, as a "preserved" tariff user I was able to get the switch put back in the old

Auctioneer is the seller's agent

From Ms C. Rieden

Sir, The item in Business headed caveat emptor (February 10) raises several points of principle. While the auctioneer will, in fact, the customer who has "reserve" with him a given amount, he is obliged to do so.

The auctioneer is the agent and should endear himself to the buyer.

Yours faithfully,

KENNETH KEITH,

Chairman,

Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd,

Norfolk House,

St James's Square,

London, SW1.

Prices A damp squid

From Mrs W. E. A. Evans

Sir, The Times report "Electricity night tariffs may fall" refers to half a million consumers using night-rate tariffs and one and a quarter million on tariffs that involve cheap night rates together with a boost for their appliances during the afternoon.

Tariffs for such customers are likely to remain unchanged (presumably meaning the latter users?).

When the new heaters were marketed without the afternoon boost it was stressed that these had been designed to store as much heat as the original ones.

Therefore it seems monstrous that any discrimination should now be made between the two with a suggested reduction for half a million instead of the total 1,750,000 users.

The board hopes this reduction would prevent them losing customers. One appreciates their statement—one switch off.

Yours faithfully,

DOROTHY A. FRY,

4 Capital Gardens,

Mill Hill,

London, NW7.

Explosiveness of natural gas

From Mr A. Waller

Sir, Your edition of February 19 carried a report of a conference at which I stated that natural gas was more explosive than methane. This statement is simple and comparative. Of safety are not so described.

If gas leaks into a room, the strength of the air/gas mixture will be the lower limit of inflammability. One gathers from the euphemism that Peter Jay approves of, or at least accepts, this kind of diffuse docto. Presumably he disapproves of Mr Booth who was honest enough (should it be unguarded enough?) to call

the gas a "damp squid".

However, the years have passed.

For the gas to be explosive it must be ignited.

Therefore, the explosive

strength of the air/gas mixture

is the lower limit of

inflammability, but when

the lower limit is reached

energy released at ignition

is much greater than

that of methane.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

City unites against Bullock



Sir Michael Clapham, chairman of Imperial Metal Industries: improved liquidity.

has been criticized in its inability to re-entered fashion to such should not be the Bullock Committee. Ian Falkner of the City is anxious to point out that the evidence to Bullock was as far as any representations of the public in such a followed in short similar arguments tension funds, the trusts and the unit trust group of a kind before added weight of the companies yet to add up to an unbrow and united a are, of course, the fundamental the Bullock major already aired by industrialists. But the same which quite concerning the City is the possible it Bullock companies' capital to dispute the view is all-important of finance, whether it, and that fears potentially disastrous of Bullock-style almost certainly leave. In that case inevitably become dearer.

issue which now taken up with equal of the legal position shareholders, whose as the owners of re-seriously threatened. The Stock is already pointed is, too, will have effects upon capital the point will not unless it is pursued tested parties.

Prices A damp squib

The Price Commission has been a remarkably toothless animal for the best part of the year and there was precious little in yesterday's consultative document on the new prices policy from July to suggest that its powers will contain any more bite.

Not surprisingly after January's sharp rise in retail prices and the necessity to keep trade unions sweet in advance of a new accord over pay, there is no chance of a prices freeze for all and in certain areas, notably the Commission's new investigative powers, there is still sufficient uncertainty over the way the code will operate to make companies wary of pushing their luck.

Apart from a few isolated cases—brick producers for instance had to trim their prices just over a year ago—few companies have had to bother about their margin reference levels with market forces reigning back allowable price rises. Indeed, as the last report from the Commission covering the three months to the end of November illustrated, British industry was operating at little more than half their reference levels after the significant relaxations last summer to the code on depreciation and investment relief.

But for the new wider-ranging investigatory powers proposed under the new rules, the whole matter would have been more cut and dried. Abolition of the existing allowable cost procedure is likely to be welcomed by industry in general since it sweeps away the cumbersome three-month time lag, for example, has proposed a one-month penalty for some, and what the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection refers to as the "quasi-mechanical" cost-based controls currently operating.

This is to be replaced by a more flexible approach which to judge by the reference criteria now laid down is so broadly based as to allow everything or nothing through.

However, the new code appears to pay rather more heed than Whitehall has shown hitherto to the impact of yesterday's issue have undoubtedly taken into account.

fact that liquidity is £9m last year, the £20m rights but financing a higher cost and spending it alone bettered its shares could more interest.

61 times latest earnings nearly 8 per cent as good a pro-

fit as the TUC and the other from business.

One person likely to think twice about allowing his name to go forward for the former post is Lord Allen of Fallowfield, former barrister, adviser to the Exchequer and of Boots.

Arthur is approaching his to step down, enlarged committee of new members, that Roy Hattersley, for Prices and Correction, has yet to body to fill Sir boots, although he an industrialist of standing to keep it, labour and company. interventionist Price is being likened to the old Prices and are without the "I", and led to the suggestion former PIB chief Jones might be. This, however, little too much of eating itself.

name that is being bar of Sir Campbell the former director the CBI. He enraged the CBI's backwoods appearing to doubt the Edward Heath's style of government, in retrospect Mrs soft-pedalling of what would seem to have Sir Campbell was in much subsequent Tory

on the chairmanship, so that new vicars will be brought in, surprise—from

ate profitability with one criterion being to "maintain the value of the business" which is the underlying theme of the Morpeth proposals. Indeed, if industry were allowed the same profit margins under CCA, the new code would represent a very real advance.

Of course, it remains to be seen how the new investigatory mechanism will work in practice though perhaps not too much should be read into the Government's intention to provide the Prices Secretary with more clearly defined powers to act on the Commission's recommendations.

Certainly, the Commission's attempts to abrogate these powers already in relation to television rental and beer prices don't give much confidence in its judgment.

My impression is that this new departure has the cosmetic hallmarks of a political weapon to be waved about occasionally. Admittedly here may well be some early attempts to clip the wings of the companies whose products bulk large in the retail price index or are politically sensitive in other ways.

Sp Mr Hattersley would get an instrument of flexibility that for the moment can be all things to all men.

Additionally the TUC's pressure for continued tough restraint on prices is nearly met by retaining some, but only some, of the strictures of the present outdated price code.

When Mr Hattersley first informally put his ideas for a successor to the Price Commission to the various representatives of industry, there was an understandable reaction.

Better the devil you know they felt... or even, if the TUC's increased pressure for price containment was inexcusable, a toughened up code compared with the easier rules that came in last year.

The CBI is alarmed at the uncertainties which would be introduced by the discretionary

Mr Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, in his consultative document yesterday for a new price restraint policy, effectively buries the present Price Commission and virtually resurrects the Prices and Incomes Board, albeit with considerably less emphasis on incomes.

The new commission would have wider interventionist powers on prices and profits and Mr Hattersley would have delegated powers in implementing recommendations.

The criteria—compared with the regulations governing the present commission—which would govern both Mr Hattersley and the commission in the investigation of sectors are written in the most subjective terms. The larger number of members on the new commission, expected to include representatives of industry like the Confederation of British Industry and the TUC, will not have an easy job in establishing a corpus of "case law" that eventually might give companies benchmarks for acceptable conduct in matters of prices and profits.

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A prices and incomes board by any other name...

Derek Harris explores industry's worries over the uncertainties resulting from yesterday's Government proposals for a body to replace the Price Commission

code could in the future be altered, allowing some accommodation for the ebb and flow of incomes policy.

But the sooner this archaic and burdensome aspect of price restraint is phased out, the better it will be.

The dropping of cost controls could be regarded as a further relaxation of the price code.

But that is where the new powers of investigation by the Price Commission come in.

The commission itself could decide whether to investigate a pre-notified price increase, the gross margins of a distributor or the prices and margins of any other enterprise. There might be a reduction in the number of the larger companies which do no profits.

Its decision would depend on criteria which have been written in such general terms that it will be left to the commission to decide whether a particular company matches up to the standard and companies have adopted it in an annual report.

Although market forces have been the main factor restraining prices and profits, with real returns on capital last year estimated to be less than 10 per cent in 1975, the CBI is rightly worried that with any improvement of industrial performance the margin controls could become a real threat to company profitability.

This will be one of their points of attack when discussions are held on the niceties of the continuing code, and with even more force the Retail Consortium will attempt to get an improvement in the operation of gross margin controls.

The Retail Consortium, whose members face a depressed trading year, are bitter that the gross margin controls—roughly equivalent to the cost controls on sectors—have not been scrapped in their case.

While the new legislation will enable the government to retain a price code, it is worth pointing out that from time to time that code could be changed in detail. The Retail Consortium, for instance, will press for the code itself to have a life of only one year.

Net profit margin controls for manufacturers and service companies stay while the cost controls go. That could do something to reduce the bureaucratic overload on companies, although the CBI for one is suspending judgment until the Department of Prices produces a new version of the question paper which has to be com-

pleted by companies and sent to the commission.

An important proviso is that present net profit controls are that present investment relief and last year's relaxations will continue. Consideration will also be given to providing for current cost accounting to be used for margin control once there is an accounting standard and companies have adopted it in an annual report.

The new commission will venture into areas which only the old Prices and Incomes Board explored as fully before. In the criteria set out as guidelines for the new commission, the secret of success is one for encouraging the reduction of costs by improving the use of resources.

Patently that could bring in questions of labour efficiency and Mr Hattersley is certainly not ruling those questions out of court. So while the TUC want any echo of the PIB to omit the "incomes" element entirely, it is likely to turn out that more than a trace of it will be discernible at times at least in some investigations.

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Allied Insulators

Limited

Preliminary Results

Year ended 31st December	1976 £'000's	1975 £'000's
External Sales	12,302	9,882
Trading Profit	1,644	1,213
Profit before taxation	1,568	1,063
Profit after taxation	760	533
Expenditure on fixed assets	476	245
Depreciation	214	168
Return on Ordinary Shareholders Funds - profit before taxation	32.0%	23.8%
Earnings per Ordinary Share	8.21p	5.69p
Dividends per Ordinary Share		
Final	2.0p	1.41p
Interim	1.5p	0.44p
Dividend cover	2.35	3.08

Extracts from Statement by Mr. Alan Lloyd (Chairman)

- * Export sales have increased by almost 30%.
- * Net current assets have increased by over 25%.
- * Net asset value now amounts to 54p per share.
- * High tension deliveries in the U.K. now represent less than 30% of total group sales.
- * Given a sensible economic environment in which to operate future prospects are encouraging.

Annual General Meeting to be held on Friday 25th March, 1977 at Federation House, Station Road, Stoke on Trent at 11.30 a.m.



VOSPER THORNYCROFT LIMITED

Another Record Year

- Trading Profit increased by 40%
- Turnover increased by 19%
- Turnover for Export £61m
- Net Dividend covered more than 11 times
- Net Tangible Assets exceed £21m

	Year to 31st October 1976 £'000	Year to 31st October 1975 £'000
Turnover	97,745	82,050
Trading Profit	6,735	4,806
Taxation	2,657	2,051
Dividends	249	226
Profit Retained	2,845	1,904
Earnings per Share	47.38p	32.89p
Dividend per Share	4.13p	3.76p
Net Tangible Assets per Share	353p	214p

DB A SUBSIDIARY OF DAVID BROWN HOLDINGS LIMITED

Derby Trust Limited

Main points from the Accounts and Statement by The Hon. David Montagu, the Chairman

- * Portfolio including net current assets up by 8% in year to 31st December, 1976, FT Actuaries All-share Index down by 31%.
- * Distributable income up 11.1% to 11.87p per share net, asset value up 16.2% to 240p.
- * Since formation of Company in late 1966 total assets have increased by 81%, FT Actuaries All-share Index by 63% and Unir-holder Index by 72.2%.
- * Compound annual rate of growth of Capital Share asset value (14%) and Income Share distribution (12%) both exceeded cost of living (11%) over this period.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Year ended 31st December	INCOME ACCOUNT		CAPITAL ACCOUNT			
	Gross Revenue £	Amount Available for Distribution £	Dividend per Income Share £	Value of total Assets £	Net Assets of Capital Shareholders £	
1975	609,802	274,063	10.66	10,829,966	5,277,478	2,062
1976	679,492	302,990	11.87	11,697,978	6,145,475	2,142

Annual General Meeting 12 noon, 21st March, 1977 Portman Hotel, W.R. Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary, Heiketh House, Portman Square, London W1H 0RJ.

NEW PRICES POLICY CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT

Extended investigatory role envisaged for Commission

certain reliefs, notably geared to investment outlays.

Margin controls

Under the new legislation which they will ask Parliament to enact the Government propose to retain the powers to make and enforce a Price Code. They propose to use these powers to maintain the control over the net profit margins of manufacturing and service firms and the gross and net margins of distributors. Where reference levels set out in the Code are exceeded prices must be reduced.

The Price Code provisions relating to margin control, including the present investment relief and the provision made in last year's Code amendments for the revision of reference levels, will be maintained. Consideration will be given to providing for Current Cost Accounting (CCA) to be used for the margin control, once an accounting standard has been issued, by those firms which adopt it in their accounts.

Present policy

The prices policy at present in force consists of two distinct elements. The first centres upon the Price Code. The Code is a large body of rules applicable to all enterprises. Briefly described, the rules provide that all companies have to stay within profit levels typical of the period prior to control; and that manufacturing and service companies can increase their prices pro rata to the increase, since pre-control days, in certain allowable costs. There

service firms. These firms would not be able to increase any other objectives of economic policy, including the industrial

margins of any other enterprise. Much of the Commission's work under this heading is expected to concern the pre-price during the 28-day prior notice period. If the Commission decided on an investigation, the price which it was proposed to increase would remain frozen for three months (beginning from the date on which the investigation was announced).

The Commission would, however, be able to award an interim price increase and would be required to allow this in cases where the profit margin would otherwise be lower than the safeguard levels described below. The Secretary of State would be able to order the discontinuation of an investigation at any stage in the proceedings.

All prices and all enterprises would come within the scope of the new policy, subject to certain exceptions to be specified by order (e.g. coal and steel prices). The number of exceptions would not be large.

The Price Commission would take on new functions.

The larger manufacturing and service companies would be required to continue to pre-notify their price increases (subject to exceptions similar to those applying under the present controls).

The Secretary of State would have powers to act on the Commission's recommendations, subject to parliamentary procedure.

The Secretary of State would also have powers to order inquiries into prices and pricing practices and to act on recommendations, subject to parliamentary procedure.

The Government therefore propose to strengthen the investigatory system as a central part of the new policy. Their objective is to establish a strong but flexible instrument within their overall prices policy, preserving a balance with the notifying manufacturing and



Mr. Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, at the press conference yesterday.

Individual enterprises

The Price Commission would decide, by reference to published criteria (set out on this page) whether it wished to investigate a pre-notified price increase, the gross margin of a distributor who renders regular reports, or the prices of

individual enterprises. Much of the Commission's work under this heading is expected to concern the pre-price during the 28-day prior notice period. If the Commission decided on an investigation, the price which it was proposed to increase would remain frozen for three months (beginning from the date on which the investigation was announced).

The Commission would, however, be able to award an interim price increase and would be required to allow this in cases where the profit margin would otherwise be lower than the safeguard levels described below. The Secretary of State would be able to order the discontinuation of an investigation at any stage in the proceedings.

In its report the Price Commission would be required to give a precise recommendation concerning the proposed price increase.

In the case of distributors, it is not possible to freeze all their prices, or a block of them. But the Commission's recommendations, arising from any investigation into an individual distributor could relate to the gross margin obtained in the period

starting from the date on which the investigation began.

The Government propose that there should be safeguard levels below which the profit margin on the product (manufacturers and services) or on the business (distributors) may not be depressed as a result of any Order made by the Secretary of State following an investigation.

The new legislation would stipulate that the new Code must contain such safeguards. The safeguards would represent minimum acceptable profit margins and would not reflect any judgment as to what should be regarded as a reasonable level of profit for the purposes of the investigatory system.

The investigations would be totally different from the quasi-mechanical measurement of a proposed price increase against a collection of rules contained in a Code. They would take account of the particular conditions in the enterprise; they would not, as in the Code, regard cost increases as inevitable but could go into the reasons for (and against) them; and third parties would be able to put their views to the Commission. Part of the investigation might take the form of public hearings, if requested by the company.

The present Code provides a sanction against breaches of any pay policy currently operative. The proposed new prices policy would contain a similar provision.

General inquiries

The preceding section described the application of the proposed new policy to individual enterprises in manufacturing, services and distribution. In addition, and carrying forward the programme of general Price Commission investigations which has been running for a couple of years, the Secretary of State would have powers to require the Commission to investigate for example, the price of a product made or sold by several enterprises, prices in a sector or a prevailing pricing practice.

Like the investigations into individual enterprises those ordered by the Secretary of State would, where appropriate, go into costs and profits. The same criteria as would be used

changing consumer demands and services;

(e) The encouragement of competition as consumer price stability or whether price is unavoidable or necessary for the protection of the consumer against abuse of market power;

(f) The promotion of links between supply and demand and the avoidance of serious shortages or effects on the balance of payments;

(g) The maintenance of quality and the satisfaction of

for the individual investigation would guide both the Secretary of State in deciding to investigate and the investigation in conducting it.

During such investigations the question of a price would not arise; and investigations would be limited to period months. The Price Code would be required, recommendations to the Secretary of State, and pursue them with the enterprises concerned.

He would have power to make orders relating and charging which from the Commission's recommendations would be accepted by the investigating enterprises.

At this and other stages in the day-to-day operation of the investigation, the sponsoring department concerned would be consulted. The provisions described would also apply to made following general inquiries.

Conclusions

The proposals in the Bill would maintain a balance between the companies' rigidity of the present price controls and the administrative burden of the latter. They would establish a regime in which price increases, which affect the society, would be socially accountable.

Consultations

Comments on these proposals should be sent to the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection (Prices Division), 1 Victoria, London SW1 OET, to the Department not later than Friday, March 18, 1977. Additional copies of this document can be obtained from this address. It should be noted that detailed proposals, revised Price Code, would contain the margins and the safeguards relating to investigations will be subject of further consultation before the Code is made a statutory instrument under proposed new legislation.

Criteria call for a fair balance

"Substantial Contribution from Overseas"

Profits exceed £10.7 million

It is most gratifying to be able to report that both profit and turnover again showed a substantial increase over the previous year. We were helped by good weather in the U.K. and an absence of any major loss making contracts while for the first time the overseas activities have made a substantial contribution to profits.

Whilst profitability should again be good in the forthcoming year, our workload prospects give some cause for anxiety in the longer term. Never in my experience has the construction industry in Britain been singled out and treated so harshly as recently. We have, however, the management and financial resources to tackle the difficult task of widening and developing our activities overseas. This can only be done in an orderly manner but I am encouraged by progress to date and optimistic about the outcome. Our liquid resources strengthened further in the year and now represent in excess of 150p per share.

Sir Alfred McAlpine & Son (Northern) Limited

This company had another successful year and

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31st October, 1976

	1976 £'000's	1975 £'000's
Turnover	136,963	131,438
United Kingdom	45,288	12,833
Overseas	182,251	144,321
Profit before tax	7,453	7,884
United Kingdom	3,278	(890)
Overseas	10,731	7,014
Taxation	4,343	5,687
Profit before extraordinary items	6,338	3,347
Extraordinary items	582	147
Minority interests	5	12
Profit attributable to shareholders	6,875	3,508
Dividends	528	482
Undistributed profit	6,447	3,024
Earnings per share	38.5p	20.2p
Dividends per share	3.05p	2.70/25p
Net assets per share	200p	147p
Liquid assets per share	157p	89p

Further Prospects

In the future therefore much will depend on how rapidly and successfully we can transfer more of our U.K. activities overseas. As I have indicated, work load prospects in Britain are not particularly encouraging and margins are under pressure. While I anticipate substantial profits in 1977 there is some risk of a decrease in turnover. We are most fortunate in having such a loyal and talented staff workforce on whom to rely for our continued progress.

At current prices and paper costs Johnson Group is at just over 42 shares, currently remunerated per share. The bid price, at the time of writing, is 44p, per share, which is 10% above the current price. The bid price is 44p, per share, which is 10% above the current price.

Shareholders Group Cleaners in the former Skellifield will be 44p, per share, which is 10% above the current price.

M

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

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Shadow over Allied Insulators' gains

By Ray Maughan
Allied Insulators has lived
comfortably up to its
recovery expectations and, after
over a decade in the doldrums,
is reaching into a period of
renewed growth.

Pre-tax profits for 1976
climbed from £1.06m to £1.57m
but, as predicted, the dividend
is held well within the bounds
of approved Treasury limits to
reduced demand for castings.

In the last two months, the
outlook for 1977 has changed
radically. At the end of last
year, Mr Alan Lloyd, chairman,
reported that the order book
had risen well above the

level of Treasury limits to
build up cash resources.

The insulation engineering
group could have paid a total of
almost 6.15p last year, yet, with
a pre-tax spending of £360,000
and a further £140,000 elsewhere, the
dividend is limited to 5.39p.

Exports are the clue to
Allied Insulators' revival. They
now account for around 40 per
cent of total sales of £12.3m
against £9.5m.

The dominance of the high
tension products division is
encouragingly reduced and its
United Kingdom output, much
of which is sold to the suppliers
of the Central Electricity Generating
Board, now accounts for

less than 30 per cent of total
turnover.

Charringtons leans less on traditional fuels

As long ago as 1973 Charringtons
dropped, but
rearer money meant that inter-
est charges moved only from
£1.13m to £1.1m. The result
was equity profits of £715,000
for an unchanged interim divi-
dend of 1p net or 1.54p gross
absorbing £373,000.

On sales of £112.8m, margins
in terms of profit before in-
terest and tax to sales were only
2.2 per cent.

The current year could
finish strongly. Mr Rowland C.
Hall, chairman, reports that
January and February were en-
couraging.

Hongkong & Shanghai slows, but pays more

By Adrienne Clesson

A 14 per cent improvement
in the 1976 net profits from
The Hongkong and Shanghai
Banking Corporation was not
enough to satisfy the London
market. The group's shares
initially lost 5p, though they re-
covered later to close just 2p
down at 350p.

At HK\$356.4m, the net figure
is struck after an unquoted
transfer to inner reserves, and
related to the parent company
only: although dividends from
subsidiaries have been taken
in, the group figure will not be
published until later.

But the directors say that the
group's total is expected to
be in the region of HK\$390m

as against HK\$333m in 1975.

Profits growth appears to
have slowed in consequence of
the slow-down in the economies
of the world's industrialized
nations in the second and third
quarters of the year, but the
directors now say that there
were signs of a return of
economic confidence towards
the end of the year.

Thanks to strong growth else-
where in the Middle East, the
biggest subsidiary, the British
Bank of the Middle East, appears
to have come through the
year well.

Mr G. M. Sayer, chairman,
points out that much now
depends on how the United
States handles its economic
situation.

Hongkong and Shanghai's
directors accept that the pace
of the economic upturn may be
slow, but they feel confident
enough to forecast that profits
this year will be sufficient to
maintain last year's dividend
(lifted from HK\$0.58 to
HK\$0.60 a share on the capital
increased by last April's
1-for-10 scrip issue) on the
share capital as increased by
another 1-for-10 issue which
they now propose.

With shortages of stock play-
ing a part, there were 10p rises
from "blue chips" like Glaxo
at 450p, Fisons 313p and Unilever
440p. ICI ended with a
gain of 7p to 342p, while a
lively interest in Turner &
Newall had the shares 5p ahead
at 147p.

Dealers say that investors are
now tending to disregard
Turner's southern African and
building industry connections
and are coming to regard the
company as a multi-national
organization. With this in mind,
a good run is expected. ICI was
helped by figures from its sub-
sidiary, IML, which rose 6p to
57p.

After a mention here, Dunlop
gained 5p to 93p, while BAT
Industries, though active, was
unmoved at 250p.

Bids and speculation apart,
the range.

Stock markets

Good buying catches dealers short

Though a little below their
best by the end of the day,
shares staged a strong recovery
with a good level of demand.

The main impetus came
from relief that Mr Healey is
to stay as Chancellor and the
hope that the statement on the
future control of prices would
contain a reference to the
easing of dividend restraint.

The fact that it did not make
little impression on the FT Index,

which rose 1.2 per cent, may
have been due to the fact that
the afternoon's price rises
were helped by a shortage of
stock. Dealers said both the
quality and quantity of the buy-

ers had a strong session
with GEC recovering 10p
to 185p after the decline brought
a slight loss in union opposition
to its capital reorganization plans.

Other good spots were Decca,
Burrard, by 12p to 262p, Interna-
tional Computers 10p to 186p, BSR
5p to 116p and BICC 5p to 99p.

In engineers, Metal Box
added 4p to 272p after its
recent acquisition, GKN gained
11p to 323p, Vickers rose 4p
to 49p after a 2p fall.

Other speculative shares in
electricals were MK Electric,
up 11p to 127p, Murchison 9p to
162p and Bowthorpe 4p to 59p.
After a mention in this column,
W. Cannon ended 4p ahead at
47p and Marton was also

up 11p to 110p, a net rise of 5p.
Brown Mulf rose 7p to 150p,
the Fraser terms, but surprising
some by their caution. In sympathy,
Ely's (Wimbledon), another stores
group, gained 15p to 48p. The
other side of the coin, Lockwood
Foods, also talked

of a potential takeover
candidate, losing 10p to 60p.
With its proposed merger with
Getaway not going to the
Monopolies Commission, Lin-
ford rose 4p to 222p.

Bids and speculation apart,
the range.

ing was the best for some time.
Gilt-edged stocks turned in a
more subdued performance and
in chin trading rose by up to
one quarter of a point across

the range.

With shortages of stock play-
ing a part, there were 10p rises
from "blue chips" like Glaxo
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Industries, though active, was
unmoved at 250p.

In buildings there were solid
gains from AP Cement 5p to
181p, Taylor Woodrow 4p to
266p and still helped by re-
cent figures, Marchwiel which
ended 3p ahead at 145p.

In the financial sector, the
boardroom split, Blackwood
Hodge put on 2p to 84p after
recent comment here and cash-
rich Nottingham Manufacturing
was unmoved at 68p after rais-
ing its stake in George Spencer,
the company it tried to take
over unsuccessfully last year.

Figures left Allied Insulators
48p and City Offices 42p both
unmoved,

Equity turnover on February
21 was £39.88m (12,551
gains). Active stocks yesterday,
according to Exchange Tele-
graph, were ICI, GKN, Trafal-
gar House, Shell, RITZ, BP, Dun-
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Electronic, BAT Industries,
BICC, Rank, MK Electric, Bar-
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Weatherall Green & Smith

Stock Exchange Prices **Electricals to the fore**

Account Days: Dealings Began, Feb 14. Dealings End, Feb 25. § Contango Day, Feb 28. Settlement Day, March 8

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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EPPEL—On 20th February, to

Edith, Carol Institute, Brus-

SENCOMBE—On February 22,

at Edith, Carol Institute, Brus-

SENCOMBE—On February 22,